GC JOKER

ガールズ・ゴー・アラウンド 2

千田衛人

SQUARE ENIX

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SQUARE ENIX.

Girls Go Around

［青春は、彼をめぐって繰り返す。］

さあ、青春を、また、1からはじめましょう。

京輔の死から再び始まった高校3年間。
ループする世界の中で、京輔を助けようとする人物は誰なのか。
そしてその希望は、果たして叶うのか!?
青春巡る、ハイスクールライフ、誰もが後悔なき結末は望えられる――!?

Volume 2

Eight Chida Presents

千田衛人

ガールズ・ゴー・アラウンド最終巻です。
最後までお付き合い頂き
有難う御座いました！
ちなみに作中でよく舞ってる花は
沈丁花のつもりでした。

WILL KYOUSUKE JOIN A CLUB...!?
AN UPPER-CLASSMAN SUDDENLY APPEARED AND DRAGGED ME TO-
I WENT THROUGH THE TROUBLE OF VISITING THE CLUB BUILDING.
THE VERY FIRST MEANINGFUL EVENT SINCE I BECAME A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT - A CLUB TRIAL.
SF Research Club
じゃーん。
WELCOME TO THE SF RESEARCH CLUB!
H-
HAA...
SF RESEARCH CLUB?
ガールズ・ゴー・アラウンド

Now, Let's start our youth over again.

Presented by

千田衛人

ガールズ・ゴー・アラウンド

Girls Go Around

Chap 6 ter

Samsara* and A Glasses Girl

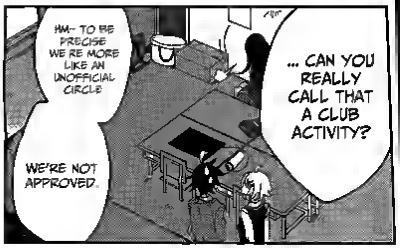
*Eternal Circle of Life: Death, and Rebirth

待望のコミックス第■巻本日発売いたし図た。

ARE YOU GOING TO JOIN OUR CLUB?
WHOA, WHAT A STRIKING BEAUTY!
ALL RIGHT, I SEE.
DUH, HOW BORING IF YOU AREN'T JOINING US, JUST LEAVE.
WHA!
OH, HE'S NOT. HE'S ONLY TRYING OUT CLUBS NOW, AKEMI.
YOU HAVEN'T DECIDED YOU'RE JOINING US YET, RIGHT?
AH... RIGHT.
SHE'S GOT A PRETTY FACE, BUT...
SH-SHE'S ANNOYING
YOU WENT THROUGH THE TROUBLE OF COMING HERE, AND GOT THIS I'M SORRY
AKEMI'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT...
AH, NO...

OH RIGHT, I HAVEN'T SAID MY NAME YET.
LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF; I'M NAKAMURA MIZUKA.
SHE'S THE CLUB PRESIDENT YASAKA AKEMI.
WE'RE BOTH SECOND YEARS. NICE TO MEET YOU
AH... I'M SAYAMA KYOUSUKE.
UM... SO WHAT'S THIS SF RESEARCH CLUB ABOUT..?
LET ME SEE. WE'RE DOING RESEARCH ON SF JUST LIKE THE NAME, FOR NOW.
FOR NOW?
DOES THAT MEAN YOU DO OTHER STUFF SOMETIMES?
THE THING IS, OUR CLUB IS...
?
BEING FIXED IN A RIGID SHAPE IS UTTERLY IGNORANT!

!?!?
JUST LIKE THIS~
WE DO WHAT AKEMI FEELS LIKE DOING AT THE MOMENT.


HM- TO BE PRECISE WE'RE MORE LIKE AN UNOFFICIAL CIRCLE
... CAN YOU REALLY CALL THAT A CLUB ACTIVITY?
WE'RE NOT APPROVED.

SHE'S BEAUTIFUL, BUT ANNOYING AND INCOM-PREHENSIBLE, WHAT A WEIRD WOMAN
TH-THIS IS MESSED UP...
WE'RE GOING TO WATCH A MOVIE IN THE NAME OF RESEARCH
WHAT DO YOU SAY, SAYAMA-KUN? CARE TO JOIN US?

INVESTIGATE IT IF SOMETHING'S BOTHERING YOU!
CHALLENGE IT IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANT TO DO!
TO ME, YASAKA, THE WORD *RETREAT* IS NOT IN MY DICTIONARY!

I WANT TO DECLINE IT..
OH, IS THAT SO?
TOO BAD.. THEN, PLEASE COME VISIT US AGAIN TOMORROW
I-I'M SORRY
NO, NO, NO MATTER WHAT, I WON'T JOIN THIS CLUB.
I WAS GOING TO LOOK AROUND TODAY..
YEAH?
AH, SAYAMA-KUN. WAIT A MOMENT
ANYWAY... IF YOU EXCUSE ME.
YES
YOUR TIE IS CROOKED.
PULL

N-no
SENPAI! I'LL DO IT MYSELF!
UH? REALLY?
THAT SURPRISED ME...
YEAH, OKAY, OKAY...
YOU SHOULD KEEP IT TIDY.
SAYAMA-KUN, YOU'RE HANDSOME, SO YOU SHOULD PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR ATTIRE TOO.
HANDSOME
EH!
WELL!
AH!
I-
IF YOU EXCUSE ME!
SEE YOU LATER~
BRING A CLUB APPLICATION WITH YOU NEXT TIME.

I GOT EXCITED OVER NOTHING SPECIAL.
TH-
THAT WAS BAD FOR MY HEART... SHE DIDN'T MEAN IT, SHE WAS ONLY FLATTERING ME...
SFX: CLOSE
BUT THE CLUB PRESIDENT WOMAN WAS WEI..D.
NAKAMURA-SEN, AI... A", EARED A NICE PERSON...
CRUMBLE
AND I DON'T GET WHAT THEY'RE UP TO FOR CLUB ACTIVITY
HM, I DON'T THINK I'LL JOI-

AH...
Flinch
SFX: RUN
WHAT!
Dash
SFX: TURN
WHO IS THAT...?
WH-WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW?
DID SHE SEE ME...?
TRYING OUT CLUBS...? NO, SHE TURNED AWAY.

SFX. CHATTER
SFX. BELL RINGS
1-A
キーン コーン
NEXT DAY
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT...?
SFX. STARE
FOR SOME REASON, SHE'S BEEN WATCHING ME SINCE THIS MORNING...
SFX. STARE
SHE WAS AT THE CLUB BUILDING YESTERDAY, WASN'T SHE...?
I DIDN'T KNOW SHE WAS MY CLASSMATE...
Stare~
Turn
Turn

WHY ARE YOU WATCHING ME...?
Rise
IT'S BOTHERING ME SO MUCH, I CAN'T CONCENTRATE!
Staren~
Staren~
SFX. FLINCH
HEY YOU!
I'll go ask her directly...
DO YOU WANT ANYTHING FROM ME?
I'M ASKING THIS BECAUSE YOUR STARING HAS BEEN BOTHERING ME. IF YOU WANT TO SAY SOMETHING, JUST SAY IT...
WHAT?

WHY!?
Blink
Blink
tremble
We...
tremble
tremble
EH?
SFX: FLINCH
SFX: DUMBFOUNDED
WH-WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT...?

BUT SHE DIDN'T SPEAK TO ME
I FELT HER STARE EVEN AFTER THAT,
What's wrong, Sayama?
WHAT THE HECK..
THE ONLY THING I KNOW IS WE MET EACH OTHER IN FRONT OF THE SF RESEARCH CLUB YESTERDAY...
What did really happen back then?
SHE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING EVEN WHEN I ASKED HER..
ON THE OTHER HAND,
WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT CLUB ACTIVITY?
野球部
I DON'T WANT THIS TO HAPPEN AGAIN TOMORROW..

HM...
SFX: SPIN
SFX: CLICK
...UM?
Huh?

HUH?
SAYAMA-KUN, GOOD MORNING~
I was in the hallway just now
HUH!? WHY AM I BACK IN THE CLASS-ROOM?
MORNING?
HUH? GOOD MORNING, ISN'T THAT RIGHT? IT'S MORNING
after school
GOOD MORNING? WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
WH-WHAT HAPPENED!?
SAYAMA-KUN, WHAT'S WRONG?
SFX: CHATTER
Good morn-ing~
good morning~

Refreshing
A-ANYWAY, WASN'T IT AFTER SCHOOL JUST NOW!?
WHY DID IT SUDDENLY TURN TO MORNING...
...? ARE YOU DAYDREAMING?
DO YOU WANT A MINT GUM?
It's refreshing!
...! SHE DOESN'T KNOW!?
WHAT...? WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED!?
I'll wake you up

WHAT'S HAPPENING...!?

THIS IS
ANOTHER HIGH SCHOOL LIFE DIFFERENT FROM THE LAST.
CAN THIS LOOP
CHANGE HIS FATE?
ANOTHER LOOP BEGINS HERE.
THIS IS THE FIRST FOR HE WHO IS HERE.

I PRAY THAT YOU'LL SURELY
REACH THE FUTURE THIS TIME.

.....
Then, open the textbook.
Here.
I REMEMBER I TOOK THIS CLASS...
..DID I DAYDREAM AS SHIINA SAID?
BUT...
TEACHER, ARE YOU ALRIGHT!?
W-WAH! I'M SORRY!
Ah.
IF MY MEMORY SERVES ME,
THE TEACHER'S ELBOW WILL HIT THE VASE NEXT AND...
Achoo!

キーコーンカーンコーン
SO, I WASN'T MISTAKEN...?
SFX: BELL
SFX: CHATTER
わいわい
IF THIS IS REALLY REPEATING ITSELF...
もw
H-
Hey!
Surprised

AH, IT'S THAT GIRL WHO WAS WATCHING ME FOR NO REASON.
じー
ぱっ
オド
オド
Ah
Um.
... WHAT DO YOU WANT?
ビクッ
.....
.....
H-Hey!
BUT I'M AS CLUELESS AS I WAS YESTERDAY.
SHE BOTHERED COMING TO SPEAK TO ME, SO I WAS WONDERING WHAT IT WAS ABOUT...

Y-YOU WERE IN THE SF RESEARCH CLUB, WEREN'T YOU?
... SHE SAID SOME-THING
WELL, I WAS
BUT SO
WHAT~
カリ

SFX GRAB

...HUH?
Squeeze~

AS I THOUGHT, YOU LIKE SF TOO!?
!?!?

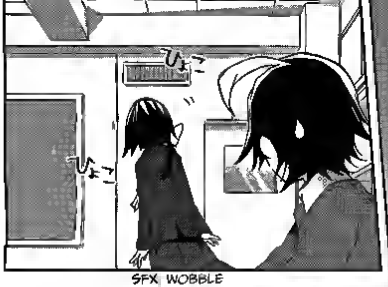
IME-TRAVELING IS
LOYED IN MANY GEN
EVEN OUTSIDE THE
SUSPENSE GENRE. LIKE
THE HERO WHO OBTAIN
THE ABILITY TO TRAVE
THROUGH TIME IS GOIN
BACK AND FORTH BETWE
THE PAST AND THE FUTUR
TO CHANGE THE WORLD
IT'S THE MANKIND'S ETE
DREAM TO CHANGE THE
PAST AND FORESEE THE
FUTURE. I'LL BET EVERY
HAS DREAMED ABOUT IT A
LEAST ONCE. THERE ARE
MANY TIME-TRAVELING-
ELATED WORKS DEALI
WITH SUCH ROMANTIC
ELEMENTS.
LOVE SF TOO
ERE ARE SO MANY
YPES OF SCIENCE
FICTION AND MY
AVORITE SUBJECT I
IME-TRAVELING. A L
OF WORKS BASED ON
THE THEME HAVE BEEN
BATED IN MANY AG
L OVER THE WORLD
THERE ARE SO MANY
IES TV SHOWS AN
NOVELS ABOUT IT. I
EVER GET TIRED OF
TIME-TRAVELING TAL
CLEARLY COMPLE
INTERESTING
AND BY THE
IME PARAD

WH-WHAT
SHOULD I
DO ..?

W-
WAIT A
WHAT SECOND.
IS SHE
TALKING
ABOUT?

UNFORTUNATELY,
I HAPPENED TO
BE DRAGGED
TO THAT
RESEARCH CLUB,
BUT I HAVE
NOTHING TO
DO WITH..
She doesn't
let go of
my hands
either...
SO SHE
WAS
LOOKING
FOR
ANOTHER
SF FAN
BECAUSE
SHE LIKES
IT...?
TIME-
TRAVELING?
WORK?

!
AH,
TH-THE
BELL
RANG.
LOOK,
CLASS IS
BEGIN-
NING!


ひょこ
ひょこ

SFX: WOBBLE

OOTSUKA, SHE'S AMAZING!
EH, MAKO-CHAN?
WHAT A WEIRDO
SHE WAS REALLY SOMETHING...
AS I THOUGHT, YOU LIKE HER TOO?

SO HER NAME IS OOTSUKA?
OH, ME EITHER
I'VE NEVER SEEN THAT GIRL TALKING BEFORE
SO SHE CAN SPEAK~

か
あっ
AH.. UH...
YEAH..

STILL, IT WOULD BE BEST IF I WERE JUST DREAMING...
THIS LOOP. I'VE GOT TO RESEARCH IT IF I CAN...
SO I DON'T REGRET IT LATER...

ANYWAY, IT'S NOT THE TIME TO PAY ATTENTION TO HER.

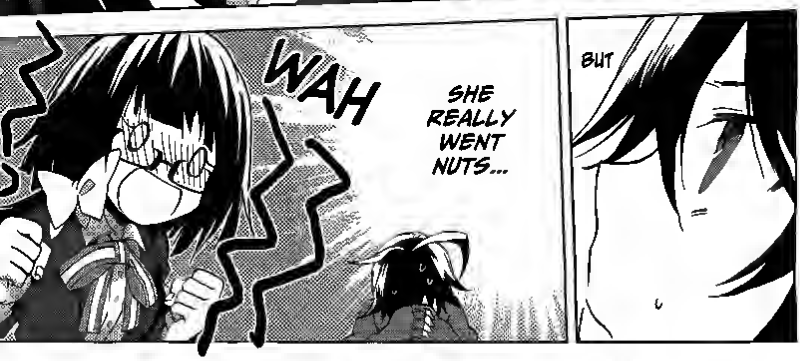
A DAY PASSED BY,
BUT ALMOST EVERYTHING HAPPENED AS I REMEMBERED
TO BEGIN WITH, THE TEACHER BROKE THE VASE,
AND THE CONTENT AND CHOICE OF SONGS IN THE BROADCAST DURING THE LUNCH BREAK WERE THE SAME
A CLASSMATE WAS LATE,
EVEN THE ANNOUNCEMENT DURING HOMEROOM WAS THE SAME...
THEN
JUST IN CASE, IF EVERYTHING REPEATS ITSELF,
I'M SURE
IT WAS ABOUT THIS TIME...

SFX: TICK TOCK
Good morning~
Good morning~
...NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.
I AM IN A LOOP.
THIS...

IT MUST BE A LOOP...
WHAT?
COULD IT BE SHE'S ALSO...?
DID SHE SAY LOOP?
SFX: BELL

WONDER IF THAT'S WHAT IT'S LIKE IN THE FIRST PLACE...
COME TO THINK OF IT, SHE CAME TO SPEAK WITH ME LAST TIME, TOO.
BUT SHE HADN'T IN THE ITERATION BEFORE.
SHE WAS THE ONLY PERSON WHO ACTED DIFFERENTLY DURING THE LOOP.
I MENTIONED THE LOOP TO SHIINA AND OTHER GIRLS,
BUT ALL THEY REPLIED WAS "WHAT'S THAT?" BEFORE THEY WENT BACK TO WHAT THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT...

THAT GIRL COULD BE DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS
I JUST HAVE TO... ASK I GUESS


WAH
SHE REALLY WENT NUTS...
BUT

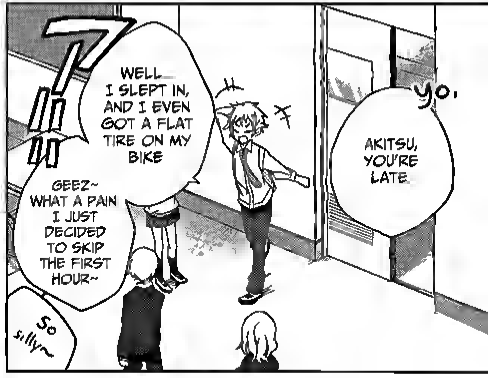
SFX. SCHOOL BELL
キーンコーン
BUT I CAN'T JUST LET IT GO.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED I'VE GOT TO DO IT SO I'VE NO REGRETS

Uhyah !?
HELLO.
A-E-E-AH! I-I-I'M S-S-SORRY!
SAYAMA ...?
C-CALM DOWN FIRST.
OKAY?
AAH.
I-I HEARD IT DURING CLASS
EXCUSE ME FOR SPEAKING TO YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN..
HUH? DID I TELL YOU MY NAME BEFORE?

HEY... I WANT TO ASK ABOUT SOMETHING.
... DID YOU JUST SAY SOMETHING ABOUT A LOOP...?
!
D-DID YOU OVERHEAR IT..?
!
THAT MEANS, AS I THOUGHT, YOU SAID IT, RIGHT?
I WANT TO HEAR ABOUT IT IN DETAIL.
I-I SEE! SO YOU'RE ALSO INTERESTED IN THIS PRECIOUS EXPERIENCE!
RIGHT, AS YOU SAID, I THINK I'M IN A LOOP NOW.
I EVEN HAVE PROOF!
Proof?

OPEN
I REMEMBER IT, TOO!
... RIGHT, AKITSU, WHO IS LATE, WILL COME TO SCHOOL DURING THIS BREAK.
HE'S LATE BECAUSE HE SLEPT IN AND HIS BIKE GOT A FLAT TIRE.

DO YOU BELIEVE ME NOW?
IF YOU NEED MORE PROOF... RIGHT, THE TEACHER WILL BREAK THE VASE IN THE NEXT HOUR, AND...
NO, IT'S ALRIGHT I BELIEVE YOU.
BECAUSE, APPARENTLY, I'M IN THE SAME SITUATION

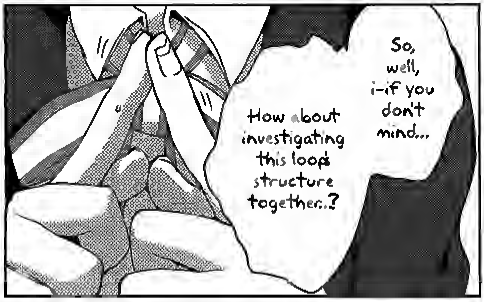

WELL... I SLEPT IN, AND I EVEN GOT A FLAT TIRE ON MY BIKE
GEEZ~ WHAT A PAIN I JUST DECIDED TO SKIP THE FIRST HOUR~
So silly~
YO.
AKITSU, YOU'RE LATE.

HEY, LOOK.
.....

IT SEEMS LIKE HER MEMORY IS CONSISTENT WITH MINE.
DOES THAT MEAN I HAVE TO ASSUME WE'RE RIDING IN THE SAME LOOP?
SFX: SLAM
THIS IS!
HEY, OOTSUKA ACTUALLY I'M ALSO..
WHOA!?

しゃらーん
PHENOMENAL CHANCE
THINK YOU NOT BUT THAT THIS IS A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY FOR RESEARCH?

SFX: SPARKLE


How about investigating this loop's structure together..?
So, well, i-if you don't mind...

YOU'RE INTERESTED TOO, RIGHT? I SAW YOU ENTERING THE SF RESEARCH CLUB.
UM, M-ME TOO! I LIKE THAT SORT OF THING,
AH, NO, I WAS

!
WHAT...
DO YOU MEAN BY STRUCTURE?

SHE'S AT IT.
I-IN MY OPINION,
THERE ARE SEVERAL CLASSES OF TIME LOOP FOR EXAMPLE, YOU'RE DRAGGED INTO A SUPERNATURAL PHENOMENON IT IS BECAUSE OF A PERSON SUPERNATURAL POWER, OR OME MACHINE CAN ACTIVAT A LOOP AT A SWITCH THERE'S A LOT OF DIFFERENT PATTERNS
WHAT'S WRONG?
Huh? She stopped?
ONCE SHE STARTS, SHE'LL GO ON AN ON...
N-NO
WELL I-I WAS TALKING MY HEAD OFF ALONE
S-SO I WAS AFRAID YOU MIGHT BE DISPLEASED WITH ME...

NOT REALLY...
LAST TIME, SHE DIDN'T MIND IT AND KEPT TALKING.
I MEAN... RIGHT, I THINK THE LAWS OF THE LOOP ARE WORTH RESEARCHING...
! I-ISN'T THAT SO!?
THERE COULD BE A PATTERN REFLECTING THE NATURE OF THE LOOP'S LAWS.
AND RESEARCHING IT AND GETTING TO THE TRUTH IS A CLASSIC PLOT IN THESE TYPES OF STORIES.. OOP.
WELL,
IF IT'S ALRIGHT WITH YOU, SAYAMA...
... HOW ABOUT INVESTIGATING IT TOGETHER?

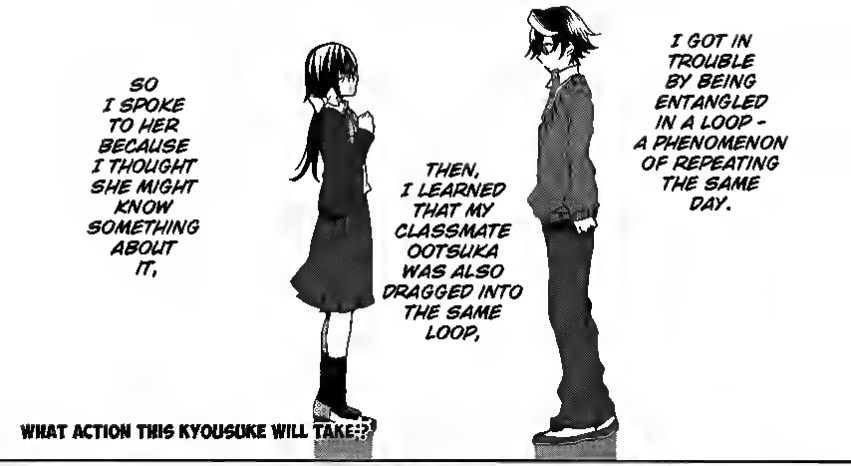
AH... YEAH.
CERTAINLY, AN INVESTIGATION MIGHT DISCOVER SOMETHING.
WHILE THIS PHENOMENON IS INTRIGUING, IT'LL BE A PAIN IF THE SAME DAY REPEATS ITSELF FOREVER.
EH.
I'M... WE MIGHT FIND A WAY OUT OF THE LOOP IF WE INVESTIGATE IT.
SHE'S STRANGELY HESITANT THIS TIME. SHE'S STUDYING MY MOOD.
I'LL DEFINITELY REGRET IT IF I DON'T DO ANYTHING, AND RELIVE TODAY AGAIN ENDLESSLY.
FORTUNATELY, IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THIS KIND OF STUFF.
OKAY, GOT IT.
カチ!!
!!
THEN, LET'S GO RIGHT NOW
WHAT?
LET'S GO WHERE...?

TO WHERE THEY'VE GOT MATERIALS!
SFX PULL
Cl
HUH, NO, WAIT!
GRIP
EH.

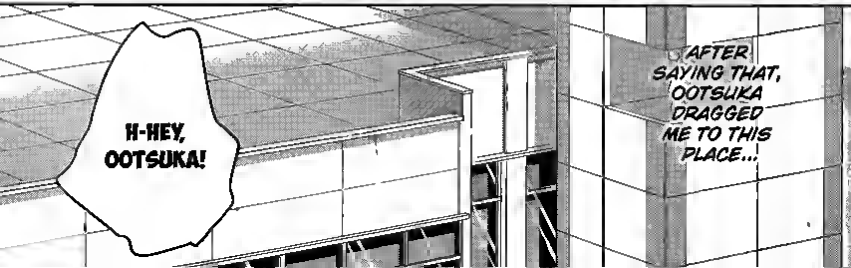
LET'S GO, SAYAMA-KUN!
What about classes..?
... IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
I GUESS IT'S ALRIGHT SINCE I ALREADY TOOK THE SAME CLASS...

WHAT A WEIRD GIRL
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT SHE CLAMMED UP AND DIDN'T SPEAK A WORD,
BUT SHE STARTED TALKING AND STOPPED ON HER OWN.
Anyway let my hand go
THEN, SHE CHARGED OFF BY HERSELF.
NEXT, SECOND, SHE SHOOK IN FEAR,
sorry
TRYING TO READ MY MIND
Blush
WELL IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
ANYWAY,

月刊ヘつつく 9月21日(土)発売


I GOT IN TROUBLE BY BEING ENTANGLED IN A LOOP - A PHENOMENON OF REPEATING THE SAME DAY.
THEN, I LEARNED THAT MY CLASSMATE OOTSUKA WAS ALSO DRAGGED INTO THE SAME LOOP,
SO I SPOKE TO HER BECAUSE I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT IT,
WHAT ACTION THIS KYOUSUKE WILL TAKE?

HOW ABOUT INVESTIGATING THIS LOOP TOGETHER...?
WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT ITS CAUSE OR STRUCTURE!


AFTER SAYING THAT, OOTSUKA DRAGGED ME TO THIS PLACE...
H-HEY, OOTSUKA!

WHAT'S WRONG?
WELL, IF YOU ASK ME THAT...
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY WHERE ...?
WHEN IT COMES TO INVESTIGATING, ISN'T IS SUPPOSED TO BE THE LIBRARY?

ガールズ・ゴー・アラウンド

Girls Go Around

CHAPTER 7: IDEA ACCUMULATING LIBRARY

CHIDA EITO

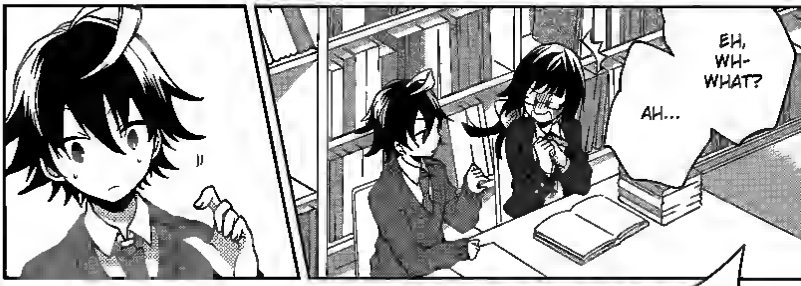
THIS HAS QUITE A COLLECTION OF SF-RELATED BOOKS TOO! I OFTEN COME HERE TO RENT THEM.
WOW... SO BIG...
C'MON, LET'S GO, SAYAMA!
You know it well.
HEH~

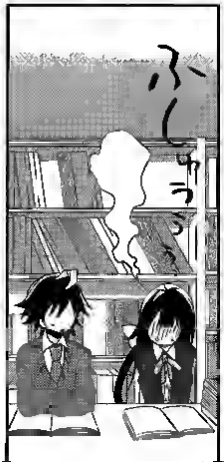
BY THE WAY, WE'RE SKIPPING CLASS!.. WELL, WHATEVER.
I already heard a bunch of times.
ANYWAY, SHE SKIPPED IT WITH FLAGS FLYING LIKE THIS.
I THOUGHT SHE WAS EARNEST.
YOU CAN'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER.
ACTS AN HONOR STUDENT.
IS MATURE.
EARNEST?
SAYAMA!
FIRST OF ALL, I SELECTED THE BOOKS
THAT DEALS WITH TIME TRAVEL OR LOOP.
SO MANY OF 'EM!
YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT HINT THEY HAVE!
WHY DON'T YOU START READING IT?
ALL OF THESE...?

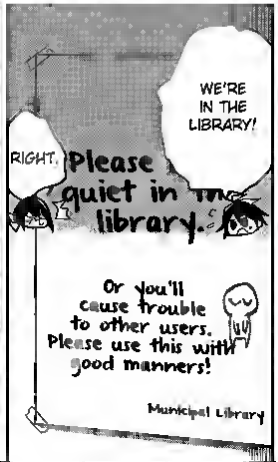
30 MINUTES LATER
1 HOUR LATER.
3 HOUR LATER.
WHA! SHIT, I FELL ASLEEP.
HOW IS SHE...
SHE'S REALLY INTO IT...
I feel weak.

U-UM .. HEY, OOTSUKA,
FOUND ANYTHING?
SFX: SILENCE
O-OOT-SUKA-
HEY.
C-CAN'T SHE HEAR ME?
SEEMS LIKE SHE CAN'T HEAR ANY SOUND...
WE'RE IN THE LIBRARY... I CAN'T MAKE A LOUD SOUND HERE...
もく
もく
SFX: SILENCE
...IF I TAP HER ON THE SHOULDER, SHE'LL NOTICE ME... RIGHT?
トン!
OOTSUKA.
I'M SORRY TO INTERRUPT WHEN YOU'RE SO FOCUSED...

HYAA
AAH!
?!?


EH, WH-WHAT?
AH...


SFX: STEAM OUT


WE'RE IN THE LIBRARY!
RIGHT.
Please quiet in the library.
Or you'll cause trouble to other users. Please use this with good manners!
Municipal Library

AH, EH!?
AH!! SAYAMA, I-I'M SORRY! I GOT HOOKED UP WITH READING
C-CALM DOWN!

A-AH, R-RIGHT.
N-NO, IT'S MY FAULT.
SORRY I SCARED YOU ..
THIS!
.NOTES?
EH!
So you were even doing this?
YOU'RE VERY COMPOSED ...
I HOPE IT HELPS AS REFERENCE... I SORTED OUT VARIOUS INFO HERE.
I ALSO WROTE DOWN WHAT HAPPENED TO ME UNTIL NOW...

ペラペラペラ
THAT'S NOT THE CASE. I'VE READ ABOUT LOOPS IN BOOKS BEFORE, SO EVEN THOUGH THIS IS AN ABNORMAL PHENOMENON, I'M NOT ENTIRELY IGNORANT OF IT. I'D SAY MY CURIOSITY GOT THE BEST OF ME...
PLUS, IN MOST LOOP STORIES THERE ARE RULES. ONCE YOU KNOW THE RULES, YOU CAN GUESS THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, THIS LOOP HAS-
SFX: BLAH BLAH

A-H.

STILL, I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE CONTENT AT ALL...
UM. POINT TAKEN.

Y-YEAH!
THEN, IF WE ANALYZE YOUR MEMORY, WE MIGHT CATCH SOMETHING... I GUESS.

WHAT WE KNOW SO FAR IS THAT WE'RE GOING BACK TO THE MORNING HR HOUR AT FIVE IN THE EVENING.
OTHER THAN THAT, THOSE WHO REMEMBER THE LOOP ARE... HUH?
The memory of the loop is returned to me only.
HEY, OOTSUKA, THIS...
BUT REALLY.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS KIND OF THING REALLY HAPPENS.
HUH?
THERE ARE CERTAINLY SEVERAL TALES ABOUT THE TIME LOOP IN REALITY...
BUT EVERY ONE OF THEM IS AS CREDIBLE AS AN URBAN LEGEND, FAR FROM FACTS...
THIS REALLY HAPPENED IN FRONT OF MY EYES!

AH..
WELL...
I GOT IT.
BUT CAN I PLEASE CONTINUE WHAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT..?
は、
SFX: PLINK
AH...
.....
...AH, YOU SEE, SO...

THE PROBLEM IS, HOW TO END THE LOOP.
.....
Haaa~
OOTSUKA?
Ah,
YOU JUST SAID THERE WERE PATTERNS.
IT MIGHT HELP US AS REFERENCES; PLEASE TELL ME ABOUT THEM.
.....
AH, I-I'M SORRY...
HEY, YOU SHOULD LISTEN TO ME SOME TIME.
SFX: FLINCH
DON'T ALWAYS DO THE TALKING.
IF THE LOOP GOES ON FOREVER, YOU'LL ALSO HAVE TROUBLE, RIGHT?
OR, COULD IT BE YOU'RE WISHING THE LOOP WOULD CONTINUE FOR YOUR RESEARCH'S SAKE OR SOMETHING...
Maybe it's good for you

Hm,
SFX: TEAR
..oops

I THOUGHT... I WAS GONNA DO IT RIGHT THIS TIME...
NO... A-AT THIS RATE, IT'LL HAPPEN AGAIN...
OOTSU-
I-I'M SORRY!
... I'LL DO IT RIGHT NEXT TIME SO...
...AGAIN?
BEEP
WHAT'S SHE DOING ALL OF A SUDDEN...!?
WHAT DID SHE MEAN BY "NEXT TIME"?
AH.
OOTSUKA!?

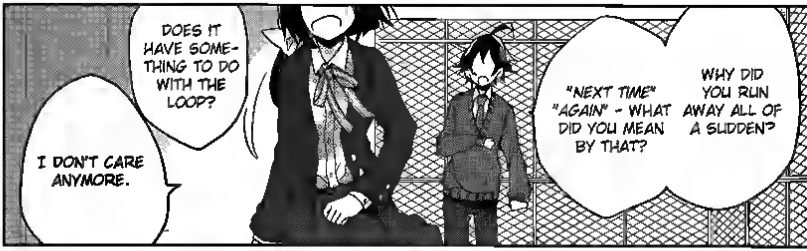
SFX: TICK
カチ
o'clock
AT SUCH A CRUCIAL MOMENT...!
AH, NO, RATHER, OOTSUKA MUST BE IN THE CLASSROOM NOW...
ガラ
THERE SHE IS!
ガラ

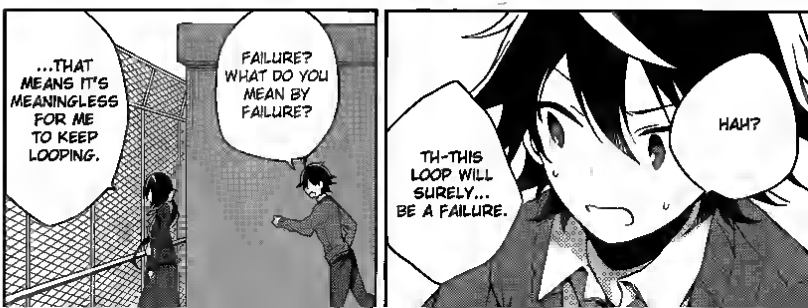
OOTSUKA!
AH, SAYAMA...
U-UM...
HEY,
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT? JUST NOW?
EH?
Just now?
"I'LL DO IT RIGHT NEXT TIME"...
THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID.
WHY DID YOU .
... Y-

YOU STILL REMEMBER THAT...?
...EH?
SFX: RISE
S-Sayama...! Do you remember the loop!?
ACK...
I-I REMEMBER IT... SO?
COME TO THINK OF IT, I DIDN'T TELL HER I WAS ALSO IN THE LOOP...

NO WAY...!
AH, WAIT!
THIS TIME... THIS TIME...
BUT AT THIS RATE, I... WHY...

OOTSUKA.


DOES IT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE LOOP?
I DON'T CARE ANYMORE.
"NEXT TIME" "AGAIN" - WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY THAT?
WHY DID YOU RUN AWAY ALL OF A SUDDEN?


...THAT MEANS IT'S MEANINGLESS FOR ME TO KEEP LOOPING.
FAILURE? WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY FAILURE?
TH-THIS LOOP WILL SURELY... BE A FAILURE.
HAH?

... HEY, GIVEN THE WAY YOU SPEAK,
DO YOU KNOW SOMETHING MORE?
AS I THOUGHT, SHE KNOWS SOMETHING, DOESN'T SHE..!?
WHAT DOES SHE KNOW?
IT'S OVER.
WHAT?
...THIS LOOP WILL CLEARLY END THIS TIME.
SO, SAYAMA, YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT IT.
SO LEAVE ME ALONE!
YOU SAID, LEAVE ME ALONE.. I DON'T KNOW MUCH.. BUT ARE YOU OKAY WITH THAT?
B-
BECAUSE

...HUH?
You already hate me, Sayama!
Because, because!

I'VE BEEN A LONER SINCE I ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL.

CLASSMATES AROUND ME TRIED TO MAKE FRIENDS RIGHT AFTER THE ENTRANCE,

MAKO-CHAN, DID YOU WATCH THE TV SHOW LAST NIGHT?

I LIKE THE TITLE SONG~

THEY EVEN SPOKE TO A LOWLY PERSON LIKE ME,

SFX: FLUSH

S-SORRY. I-I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THAT KIND OF THING.

AH~

I SEE~

I COULD TALK DAY AND NIGHT ABOUT SF,

BUT KNEW LESS ABOUT OTHER STUFF,

SO THEY STOPPED SPEAKING TO ME BEFORE I REALIZED.

I DIDN'T MIND BEING BY MYSELF,
BUT BEING ALONE FOR THE WHOLE DAY... WAS UNSURPRISINGLY LONELY.
I THOUGHT I COULD MAKE FRIENDS WITH SOMEONE
WITH THE SAME HOBBY AS MINE,
SO BACK THEN,
B-but
WHAT SHOULD I DO OTHER THAN MUSTERING UP COURAGE HERE!
MAKO, DO YOUR BEST!
SFX: CLENCH
SF RESEARCH CLUB!?
MAYBE I COULD MAKE FRIENDS HERE...
BUT HOW CAN I TALK TO STRANGERS...
AND THERE I SAW...

ばったり!
?
SFX. SUDDEN ENCOUNTER
Eh, Ah.
SFX. PANIC
SFX. TURN
UM, WAIT!
I-I RAN AWAY UNCONSCIOUSLY,
BUT WASN'T IT... A MALE CLASSMATE...?
HE WAS IN THE SF RESEARCH CLUB...
I WONDER IF HE LIKES SF TOO...?

MAYBE, WE COULD BE FRIENDS!
EVEN FOR ME, I CAN TALK ABOUT SF ALL DAY... IT'S NOT LIKELY WE'LL RUN OUT OF THINGS TO TALK ABOUT!
BUT
THE FIRST TIME WAS A CHANCE THAT RARELY CAME.
BUT I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING.
SAYAMA EVEN CAME TO COME SPEAK TO ME...
AND WHAT DID I DO...
EVEN AFTER THAT, I COULDN'T FIND THE RIGHT MOMENT TO SPEAK TO HIM...
I'M SURE I GOT ON HIS NERVE HE MUST BE THINKING I'M A WEIRDO... HE MIGHT NEVER SPEAK TO ME AGAIN...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME...
I WANT TO TRY IT AGAIN...

カチッ
SFX: TICK
I WAS SO EXCITED AND DELIGHTED BY THAT SUDDEN EVENT, I FORGOT ABOUT YOU, SAYAMA.
WHEN I REALIZED THE LOOP MIGHT'VE HAPPENED,
...HUH, WHAT.
Whoa!
I'LL DEFINITELY BE FRIENDS WITH YOU-
MAYBE THIS IS A CHANCE
FOR ME TO SET THINGS STRAIGHT WITH SAYAMA...
BUT THE MOMENT I SAW YOU, I SUDDENLY REMEMBERED IT.
I WAS SO EXCITED THAT I POURED ALL THINGS THAT I'D WANTED TO SAY.
I TOOK MY COURAGE AND SPOKE TO YOU,
AND YOU ANSWERED ME.

AH, TH-THE BELL RANG!
LOOK, CLASS IS BEGINNING!
Ah.
TOO
I FAILED ON MY THIRD CHANCE.
I THOUGHT HE GOT SICK AND TIRED OF ME BECAUSE I WAS POURING WORDS ON HIM ONE-SIDEDLY.
I ONLY WANT TO BE FRIENDS WITH HIM.
BUT IT DOESN'T WORK AT ALL.
AGAIN... I FAILED.
THIS KIND OF CHANCE DOESN'T COME OFTEN...
PLEASE... ONE MORE TIME...

THAT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY I WAS THE ONLY ONE HAVING THE MEMORY.
I THOUGHT THIS LOOP WAS FOR ME.
THEN, WHEN THE THIRD LOOP CAME,
SFX: SCRIBBLE
Ah, eh, sayam...!?
EEK!?
...HELLO.
Fufu
I'LL THINK ABOUT MORE WAYS TO SPEAK TO HIM PROPERLY THIS TIME...
IF I TELL HIM ABOUT THIS EXPERIENCE, WE MIGHT BECOME FRIENDS...
SAYAMA... HE TOOK INTEREST IN MY STORY!
I WANT TO HEAR MORE ABOUT YOUR LOOP.
...BEFORE I CAME UP WITH ANYTHING, YOU SPOKE TO ME FIRST.
!
AND I PULL HIM OUT TO RESEARCH ON THE LOOP TOGETHER.

I HAD... A LOT OF FUN.
I GOT CARRIED AWAY BY THE ATMOSPHERE.
YOU SPOKE TO ME SO CASUALLY, THAT EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T USUALLY TALK STRAIGHT.
THINGS GOT UNCOMFORTABLE LITTLE BY LITTLE...
NEXT SECOND, I GOT DEPRESSED. I MISSED WHAT YOU WERE SAYING.
WHEN WE TALKED ABOUT SF-RELATED THINGS, I GOT SO EXCITED, I TALKED A LOT.

HEY, YOU SHOULD LISTEN TO ME SOME TIME.
DON'T ALWAYS DO THE TALKING.
IN THE END, I W S TOLD THAT IT ANNOYED YOU.
I MADE MYSELF HATED.

OOTSUKA ?
AS I SAID, I ANNOYED YOU...
SO YOU WOULDN'T BOTHER BEING FRIENDS WITH ME.
THEN-
I CAN TRY IT AGAIN.
WHEN YOU POINTED IT OUT... IF I WAS UNWILLING TO LEAVE THE LOOP,
I COULDN'T DENY IT.
I HAD TO RUN AWAY.
OOTSUKA!?
THERE WAS CERTAINLY A PART OF ME HAVING THAT THOUGHT.
AND AS IF I FACED MY STUPIDITY INSIDE.
I'M THE ONLY ONE IN THE LOOP... I'LL START OVER WITH UNSUSPECTING SAYAMA...
IT'S OKAY ANYWAY. SAYAMA WILL FORGET ABOUT THE LOOP

Y-YEAH...
SAYAMA, YOU... REMEMBER ABOUT THE LOOP THAT IS OCCURRING AT THIS MOMENT, CORRECT?
I THOUGHT SO. LOOKING BACK NOW, THERE WERE SIGNS.
BUT I... WANTED TO BELIEVE THAT THIS LOOP WAS MEANT TO GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE TO APPROACH YOU,
SO I ASSUMED YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANY MEMORY OF IT...
BECAUSE I WANTED... TO BE FRIENDS WITH YOU, NO MATTER WHAT.

I BELIEVED THAT AFTER ENOUGH ATTEMPTS, IT WOULD WORK OUT SOME DAY,
BUT NOW THAT YOU REMEMBER EVERYTHING... REPEATING THE LOOP IS POINTLESS.
YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT I'M TOO SELF-CENTERED, AND THAT I HAVE TROUBLE TALKING TO PEOPLE,
YOU ALREADY KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT IT... YOU HAVE ALREADY SEEN TERRIBLE PARTS OF ME OVER AND OVER AGAIN...
I BET... YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN DISGUSTED BY A LOWLY PERSON LIKE ME?
SO...

I AM NOT.
B-BUT I-
YOU'RE THINKING A LITTLE TOO MUCH.
EH?
YOU'RE SAYING I HATE YOU, I'M DISGUSTED BY YOU,
B-BUT I GAVE YOU SO MUCH TROUBLE...
OBVIOUSLY, YOU'LL HATE ME...
BUT DON'T DECIDE IT ON YOUR OWN.

BUT HOW DO I PUT THIS... WHEN YOU HAVE SOMEONE YOU THINK IT'S OKAY TO FIGHT FOR, ISN'T THAT WHAT WE CALL A FRIEND?
THERE ARE TIMES WHEN EVEN FRIENDS GET IRRITATED WITH EACH OTHER.
THAT'S WHY I SAID YOU'RE THINKING TOO MUCH.
...IS THAT SO?
WELL, THAT'S MERELY MY OPINION
.....
ARE YOU OKAY... WITH A PERSON LIKE ME?
...SAYAMA

DO YOU CONSIDER ME...
AS YOUR FRIEND?

YUP.
HUH, WAIT.
ARE YOU OKAY?

M-MY KNEES BUCKLED, I CAN'T STAND UP
DAMN, ARE YOU OKAY ...?
P-PROBABLY SO..
AHA ..
THANK YOU...
...N-
WHAT?
...IT'S NOTHING REALLY.
YOU ALSO MAKE SUCH A FACIAL EXPRESSION.

SEEMS LIKE... THE LOOP ENDED.
I GUESS THE HYPO-THESIS THAT YOU CAUSED WAS CORRECT.
YEAH...
SFX TICK-TOCK
ARE YOU SORRY THAT THE LOOP ENDED?

I BECAME... FRIENDS WITH YOU, SAYAMA.
SFX BA-D
N-NO, WELL... I FEEL A LITTLE SORRY FOR THE SAKE OF MY RESEARCH!
BUT-

COME TO THINK OF IT, I DIDN'T TELL HER YET...
AH... HEY, OOTSUKA?
YOU SEE... I FORGOT TO TELL YOU,
WHAT?
ACTUALLY,
あ、
YOU SAYING IT FRANKLY EMBARRASSES ME SOMEHOW...
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO GETTING TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU!
WE BOTH LOVE SF AFTER ALL...
SFX: WHAT!?
WH-WHAT? YOU'VE GOT NO INTEREST IN SF?!
true, you looked a little disinterested but I thought that was because of me
NO WAY... THEN, I ONE-SIDEDLY POURED SF STUFF YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW...
BY THE WAY, I SPOKE TO YOU BECAUSE I THOUGHT YOU LIKED SF, BUT THAT WAS ALL A MISUNDERSTANDING...
え、
あわわ

REALLY!?
N-NO, BUT LOOK, YOUR STORIES WERE VERY INTERESTING!
COME TO THINK OF IT, MAYBE I SHOULD WATCH SOME MOVIES~
THEN WHAT ABOUT BEGINNING WITH *BUTTERFLY EFFECT*? THAT'S THE BEST WORK ABOUT TIME LOOPS WHERE YOU CAN GET A HEART-POUNDING TRIP WITH THE HERO.
GROUNDHOG DAY IS ALSO INTERESTING BECAUSE IT'S A LITTLE SIMILAR TO OUR LOOP. WATCHING IT, YOU GET CURIOUS WHERE THE HERO'S LOVE LEAD TO...
SFX: BRIGHTENED
SFX: HAH!
SFX: EH
I-I am sorry...
for giving you trouble again...
NO... I THINK IT'S OKAY.

SAYAMA...
SHE LOOKS MOST ENERGETIC WHEN SHE TALKS ABOUT SCIENCE FICTION IN THE END.
I THINK WHAT YOU SAID COULD PASS AS A NORMAL CHAT.
IT AROUSED MY INTEREST PARTLY... BECAUSE YOU RECOMMENDED IT LIKE THAT.
HEY... TH-
THANK YOU...
THUS, THE LOOP WITH OOTSUKA ENDED IN PEACE...
BUT-

NEXT DAY.
I WASN'T GOING TO COME AGAIN, BUT...
SAYAMA! A-ARE YOU READY? L-LET'S OPEN THE DOOR WITH A COUNT OF THREE!
YUP!
APPARENTLY, MY ORDEAL IS EXPECTED TO LAST A LITTLE LONGER...
JOKER

AFTER THAT EVENT WITH GOTSUKA,
OH BOY! WELCOME!
ARE YOU TRYING THE CLUB TOGETHER THIS TIME?

SHE ENDED UP JOINING THE SF RESEARCH CLUB WITHOUT ANY PROBLEM
HOW IMPRESSIVE THAT YOU KNOW QUITE A LOT ABOUT SF.

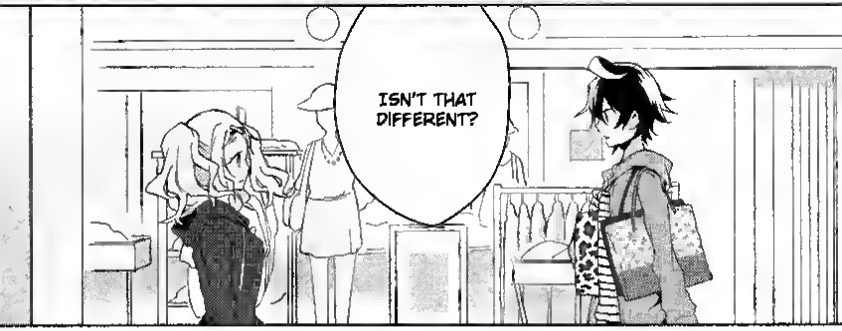
I'LL MAKE AN EXCEPTION AND GRANT YOU PERMISSION TO JOIN US.
IS IT OKAY!?
NO, WHAT'S WITH THIS "EXCEPTION" FOR A CLUB ACTIVITY?
SFX HURRAH!
BEFORE I KNOW IT, IT IS NOW EARLY SUMMER
IN A BLINK OF AN EYE
THEN, TIME PASSES BY,

I'VE BEEN LYING TO SENPAI.
THIS MYSTERIOUS LOOP
ONCE AGAIN INVOLVED ME.

CHAPTER 8: DIVERGENCE - TRUE OR FALSE

I'M DRAGGED INTO IT AGAIN
?
SINCE THE OOTSUKA INCIDENT, ORDINARY DAYS HAVE CONTINUED FOR A SHORT PERIOD...
WHEN I'M ON THE VERGE OF COMPLETELY FORGETTING ABOUT THE LOOP THING,
APPARENTLY, SHE CAUSED THE LOOP THIS TIME...
HIYORI
MUST APOLOGIZE TO HIM.
SHE

BUT, EVEN THOUGH SHE SAID, "I MADE MYSELF UP FOR MY SAKE."
SHE HID HERSELF.
SHE GAVE AN EVASIVE ANSWER CONCERNING HER DREAM WHEN SHE HAD NONE.
SHE PRETENDED TO LIKE WHAT SHE ISN'T INTERESTED IN
DECEIVED HER SENPAI WHO SHE WAS GOING OUT WITH.
CALLING IT "DECEIT" IS -
AS SHE LOVED HIM SO MUCH
IT WAS ACTUALLY HER WAY OF DOING HER BEST TO BECOME SOMEONE THAT MATCHED HER SENPAI.


ISN'T THAT DIFFERENT?

I'M NOT SURE IF IZUMI WILL BE CONVINCED WITH THIS, BUT...
HEY, KYOUSUKE...

shine

DO YOU HAVE A DREAM FOR YOUR FUTURE?
WHAT?

DREAM...?

COME TO THINK OF IT, SHE JUST SAID SOMETHING LIKE,
"SENPAI HAS A DREAM, BUT I DON'T."
SPEAKING OF MY DREAM, I'VE NEVER BEEN GIVEN IT A THOUGHT JUST LIKE IZUMI.
OTHER THAN MAKING IT TO COLLEGE, GETTING SOME JOB,
AND LEADING AN ORDINARY LIFE.
BUT...
BUT WON'T YOU REGRET IT THAT WAY, I WONDER?
...REGRET.
KYOUSUKE?

I...
DON'T HAVE ANY DREAM WHATSO-EVER
!
ほっ
I SEE
AS EXPECTED, YOU DON'T HAVE-
BUT-

...I CAN'T SAY THAT
FOREVER.
...EH?

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
I'LL LIVE ON THIS WAY, GOING TO SOME COLLEGE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE
AND GETTING A JOB BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE TO WORK TO MAKE A LIVING EVEN THOUGH I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANYTHING I WANT TO DO
AND THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH...

IT'S NOT LIKE I HATE LIVING AN ORDINARY LIFE-
I WONDER IF IT'S OKAY TO BE CARRIED AWAY IN A TORRENT LIKE THAT...
I GUESS YOU MUST THINK THAT YOU HAVE TO THINK.

BECAUSE YOU DON'T WANT TO REGRET IT LATER...
K-KYOUSUKE, THEN WHAT DO YOU THINK I SHOULD DO?
I-
I SAID THAT, BUT HONESTLY, IT DOESN'T DAWN TO ME WHEN IT COMES TO WHAT I WANT TO DO
I MIGHT FIND IT LATER.
!

...DON'T HAVE ANY DREAM IN THE FIRST PLACE, SO I MIGHT WORK FOR MONEY.
SO I SHOULD AIM FOR A JOB THAT PAYS WELL, I GUESS...
...NOTHING ROMANTIC ABOUT IT.
WELL, AS I SAID, I DON'T HAVE A DREAM...
IF YOU DON'T WORK TOO HARD, HOW ABOUT LOOKING FOR A JOB THAT HAS THE BALANCE BETWEEN AN INCOME AND A REST TIME.. ?
THAT WAS A PRETTY REALISTIC COMMENT...
YOUR FUTURE LIES IN REALITY, AFTER ALL....
WELL, DOING WHAT YOU CAN RIGHT NOW IN PREPARATION OF THAT MOMENT WHEN YOU FIND YOUR OWN DREAM...
COULD BE AN OPTION, I GUESS.
SO WHEN THAT MOMENT COMES, YOU CAN START WITHOUT HESITATION.

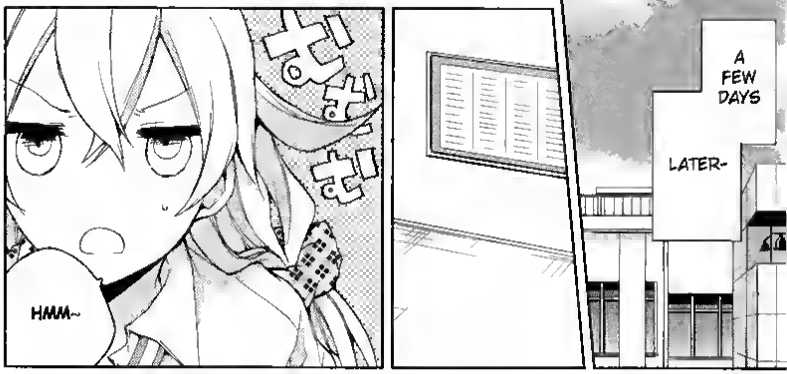
YOU SHOULDN'T THINK EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT FOREVER.
I THINK?
THE MOMENT WHEN I FIND MY OWN DREAM...
IN THE END, YOU'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING.
..YOU'RE RIGHT.
YOU SEE,
I THINK I HAD A COMPLEX TOWARD SENPAI.
HE'S CLEAR ABOUT HIS DREAM, AND DEDICATED TO HIS GOALS.
ALSO, HIS EFFORTS PAY...
THAT'S WHAT I LIKED ABOUT HIM. I ADMIRED HIM, AND I WAS JEALOUS OF HIM AT THE SAME TIME.

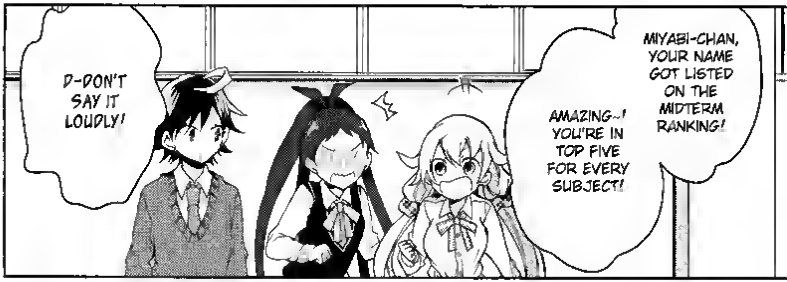
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT MY DREAM YET.
SAME AS YOU, KYOUSUKE
I DON'T KNOW IF I'LL EVER BE ABLE TO FIND ONE,
AND WHO KNOWS WHAT'LL BECOME OF ME EVEN IF I DON'T FIND ONE
BUT-
I DON'T WANT TO REGRET EITHER...

SO-
I'LL STOP RUNNING AWAY FROM THINKING.

Whoa!
OKAY!
EH?
SENPAI DUMPED ME,
A CLASSMATE OF MINE PREACHED SOMETHING TO ME,
AND I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT MY DREAM!
...STILL,
WHAT AN UNPLEASANT DAY IT IS!
Geez~

SO
THANK YOU!
...YEP.
I'VE DECIDED TO DO MY BEST!


A FEW DAYS LATER-
HMM~


MIYABI-CHAN, YOUR NAME GOT LISTED ON THE MIDTERM RANKING!
AMAZING~! YOU'RE IN TOP FIVE FOR EVERY SUBJECT!
D-DON'T SAY IT LOUDLY!

OH, SAYAMA-KUN, YOU'RE IN THE LIST FOR MATH
BARELY MADE IT IT WITHIN TOP 50
YOU DON'T NEED TO SAY IT OUT LOUD...
HOW ABOUT YOU, SHIINA?
DON'T ASK ME!! DON'T ASK ME, PLEASE!
ﾄﾝ

HEY LOOK, LOOK AT THIS! DON'T YOU THINK IT'S GREAT?
!?
KYOUSUKE!!
62
60
WHAT ABOUT THESE?
...? A LITTLE ABOVE AVERAGE ...?
H-

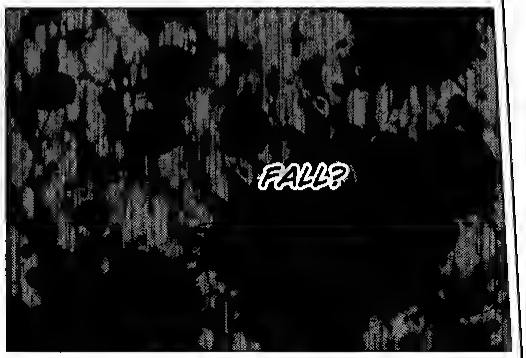
HIYORI, HOW DID YOU GET THESE SCORES?
HEHE, ISN'T THAT GREAT?
HIYORI, WHO NEVER CARED ABOUT TESTS...
GOT AVERAGE SCORES ...!?
FUFU~
LISTEN,
I'VE BEEN WORKING HARD LITTLE BY LITTLE SINCE THAT DAY.
I DON'T HAVE A DREAM FOR NOW...
BUT WHAT IF I SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE TAKING THE PATH TO MEDICINE, OR WHATNOT.

IN THAT CASE, I'LL NEED A GOOD GPA!
IF NOT, IT DOESN'T HURT TO STUDY, DOES IT?
WELL, MIYABI'S LEVEL IS FAR-FETCHED.
I'VE DECIDED TO DO WHAT I CAN DO FOR NOW!
SO I STUDIED A LITTLE HARD!
HIYORI...
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE FUTURE...
BUT I DON'T WANT TO REGRET IT.

PLUS, SMART GIRLS ARE COOL, AREN'T THEY?
あぁ！
Oh, I think I know
Clearly, not smart, huh
WELL~ BECAUSE MIYABI IS, YOU KNOW~
WHY DID YOU BRING UP OUR CLASS REP...?
GOOD FOR YOU, MIYABI~!
H-HIYORI!
EH...!?
Oh-
YOU'RE RIGHT.

SFX: KYAH KYAH

ON THAT DAY-
WHY DID YOU!
卒業

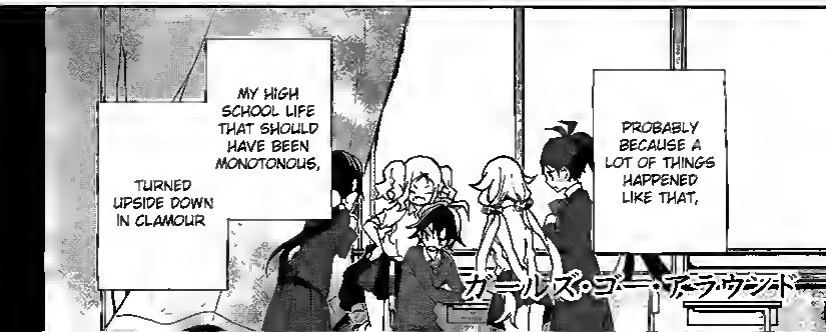

FALL?

I-
MY REGRET IS-

THE CHOICE...
KYOU-CHAN MAKES-?

NOT SAVING YOU.
THIS TIME...
I'LL DEFINITELY SAVE YOU, KYOU-CHAN.

AFTER I SOLVED OOTSUKA'S
AND IZUMI'S LOOP,
I'VE GOTTEN INVOLVED IN OTHER LOOPS


MY HIGH SCHOOL LIFE THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN MONOTONOUS,
TURNED UPSIDE DOWN IN GLAMOUR
PROBABLY BECAUSE A LOT OF THINGS HAPPENED LIKE THAT,
ガールズ・コー・アラウンド

SAYAMA-KUN.
SAYAMA-KUN.
SAYAMA!
SAYAMA-KUN.
TIME PASSED BY A BLINK OF EYES,
AND BEFORE I KNOW IT, I'M ALREADY IN SECOND YEAR.

ガールズ・ゴー・アラウンド

Girls Go Around

CHAPTER 9: EARNEST DAILY DAILY

CHIDA EITO

HEY, LET'S FORM A GROUP FOR THE UPCOMING FIELD TRIP!
AH HEY, MAKO-CHAN, YOU SHOULD JOIN US!
HEH?!
SFX. KYAH~
'COURSE IT IS~
AH...
I-I-I-I-IS IT OKAY...?!
YAHOO!
I DON'T MIND IT.

HEY TOMOKA~ LET MIYABI IN TOO.
EH?!
HUH?
IT'S FINE WITH US, BUT HIYO-CHAN, DON'T YOU WANT MIYABI-CHAN IN YOUR GROUP?
I'LL TEAM UP WITH CHIHIRO~
WHAT?
THEN, THAT'S MAKO-CHAN, MIYABI-CHAN AND ME, WE GOT THREE GIRLS.
WE NEED TWO MORE GUYS~ SAYAMA-KUN, DO YOU KNOW SOME-ONE ELSE?
AAH... UM...
IS IT COOL?
AH.. Y-YEAH.
NOW

IT'S A PART OF MY DAILY LIFE TO HANG OUT WITH THESE GIRLS.

WHAA!?
OOTSUKA, WHAT'S WITH THE SMILE?

ニヘ…

BECAUSE I TRIED OUT THE SF RESEARCH CLUB AND MET YOU GUYS THERE...
I'VE GOTTEN CLOSER TO SHIINA AND YOU
AH, N-NO I WAS SO HAPPY THAT I MANAGED TO FIT IN WITH YOU GUYS.

By the way, the new movie was—
That one!!
I LEARNED A LOT ABOUT SF MOVIES THANKS TO YOU, MAKO-CHAN.
AND I SPOKE TO YOU BECAUSE WE KNEW SAYAMA IN COMMON.
I GUESS THAT'S HOW IT IS IN HER MIND...
With Sayama-kun
CLASS REP, WHAT'S WRONG?
EH!!
N-N-NOTHING AT ALL!
UM... YOU SEE...

LET'S HAVE A GOOD TIME ON THE FIELD TRIP...
?
YEAH.
Fufu
HIYORI IS REALLY .. YOU KNOW
Fufu
EEEP!!
MIYABI (HEART)
GOOD LUCK TO YOU~
BECAUSE YOU ALWAYS MISS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY.
W-WAIT, HIYORI!!
KYOU-CHAN
Sorry sorry
Its ok, dont say those things!

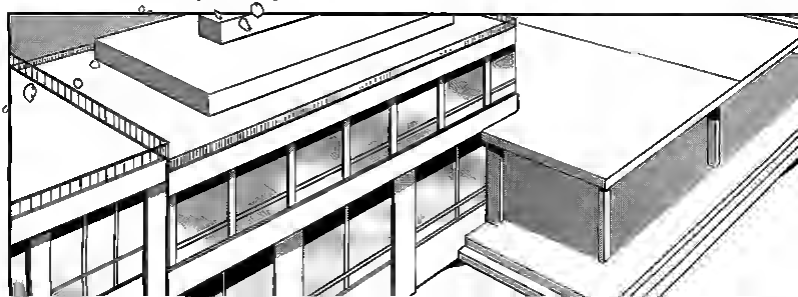
CHIHIRO.
.....
I HOPE YOU'LL HAVE A GREAT TIME ON YOUR FIELD TRIP.
.....
HUH? UM... I MEAN...
IT HAS TO BE A FUN FIELD TRIP!

T-THAT'S ALL!
AH,
WELL... I MEAN...
HEY, SAYAMA-KUN, WHAT PLACES DO YOU WANT TO VISIT IN KYOTO~?
SO EVEN CHIHIRO GETS EXCITED OVER THIS EVENT HOW UNEXPECTED..
We can talk about it once we all have the group members
Well... Still, you know we can pick the candidates
THEN

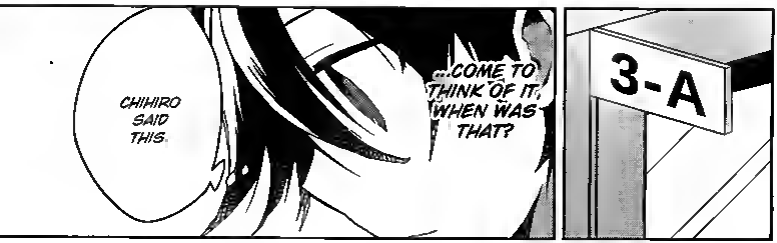
SAYAMA-KUN, THIS WAY, THIS WAY~!
COMES THE FIELD TRIP
What should I buy for presents?
THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL
TAKOYAKI* A BALL SHAPED JAPANESE SNACK
You want to eat some takoyaki~?
OH, SO HOT!

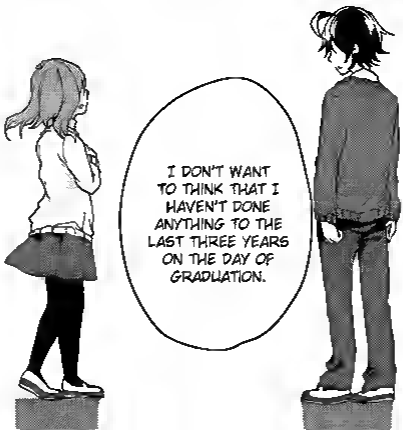
VARIOUS EVENTS WERE HELD,

THEN A YEAR, AND ANOTHER YEAR PASSED SO FAST,



IT WAS VERY DIFFERENT FROM A HIGH SCHOOL LIFE
THAT I IMAGINED BEFORE I ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL


CHIHIRO SAID THIS.
...COME TO THINK OF IT, WHEN WAS THAT?
3-A


I DON'T WANT TO THINK THAT I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING TO THE LAST THREE YEARS ON THE DAY OF GRADUATION.

BEYOND
ANY REGRET

GOOD OR
BAD
...I THINK
I LIVED MY
LIFE THE
FULLEST.
...I HAVEN'T
DONE
ANYTHING"
I'LL NEVER
BE ABLE TO
SAY THAT.

GOODBYE, SAYAMA-KUN!
BYE.
SEE YA~
SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW~
BYE-BYE~
WHAT?
I'M GLAD YOU SEEM TO BE HAVING FUN.

BECAUSE WHEN YOU ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL,
YOU WERE INDIFFERENT TO EVERYTHING SAYING "I DON'T REGRET"~
SFX: HUH?
SOMEHOW, YOU WERE STRANGELY COLD
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'VE ALREADY DECIDED THAT HIGH SCHOOL WAS BORING IN THE BEGINNING
BUT, KYOU-CHAN, DESPITE THAT,

MAKO-CHAN AND YOU JOINED THE SF-RESEARCH CLUB TOGETHER,
YOU BECAME AN EXECUTIVE MEMBER WITH MIYABI-CHAN DURING THE FESTIVAL,
YOU WENT TO A RELAY RACE WITH TOMOKA-CHAN BACK AT THE SPORTS FESTIVAL,
AND YOU HELPED HIYORI-CHAN STUDY.

...WELL.
I'D SAY... YOU'VE TURNED AGGRESSIVE.
KYOU-CHAN, DID YOU HAVE
FUN DURING HIGH SCHOOL?

.....
WELL...
RIGHT.
IT WASN'T SO BAD.

SFX: FUFU
THEN, HOW ABOUT YOU, CHIHIRO?
ME?
I-
IS THAT SO?
I'M GLAD.

.....?
CHIHIRO...?
AM FINE
AS LONG AS YOU HAVE NO REGRET, KYOU-CHAN

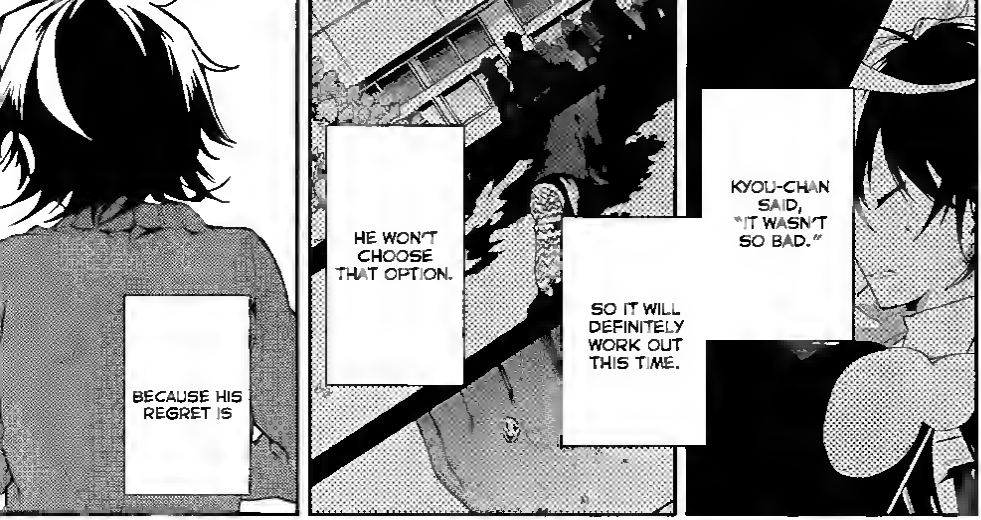
AH, OKAY
THEN, SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW
SOMEHOW, I HAD A STRANGE FEELING..
BUT WAS I MISTAKEN?

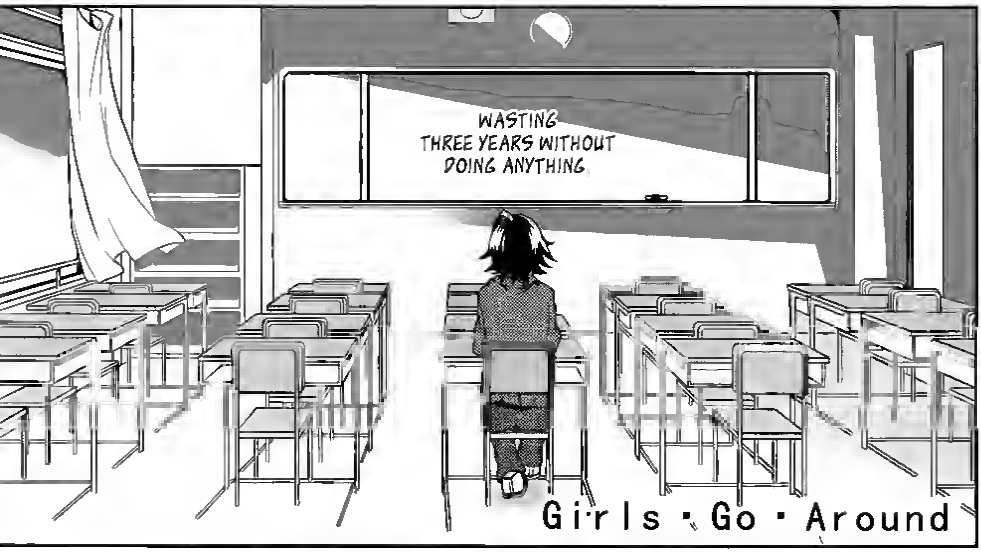
TEXT: GRADUATION CEREMONY

AND

THAT MOMENT
WILL COME SOON
AS WELL-

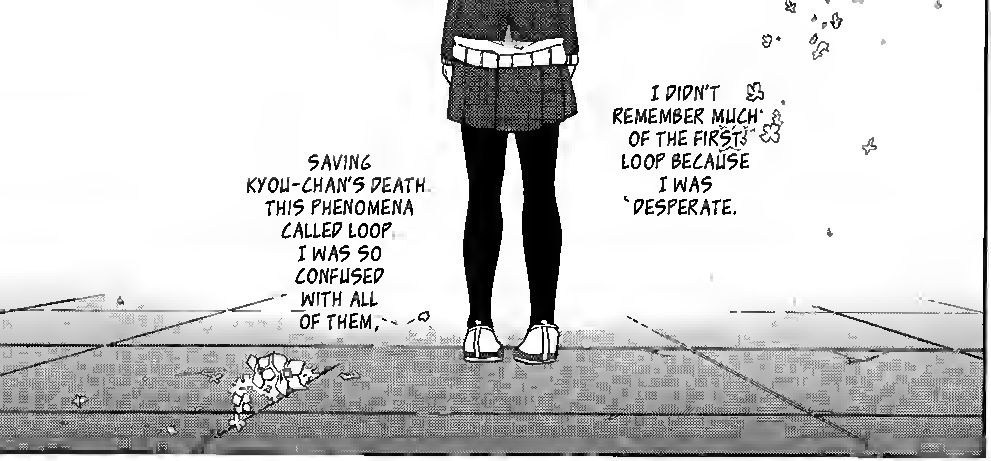
そして、その時はすぐそこに――。

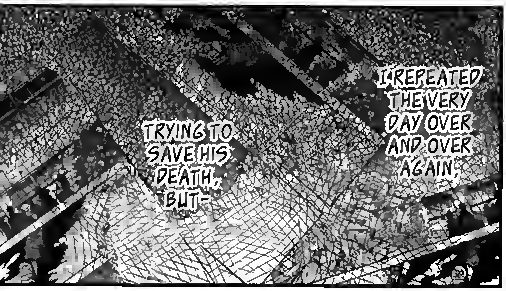

BECAUSE HIS REGRET IS
HE WON'T CHOOSE THAT OPTION.
SO IT WILL DEFINITELY WORK OUT THIS TIME.
KYOU-CHAN SAID, "IT WASN'T SO BAD."


WASTING THREE YEARS WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING
Girls・Go・Around

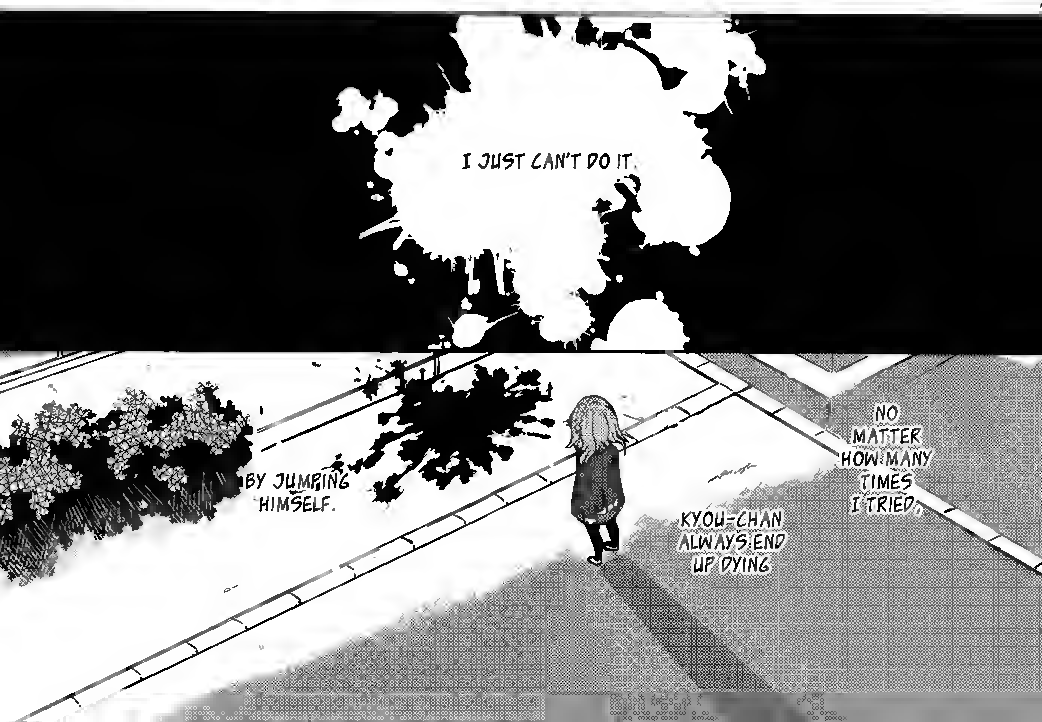
...OR THAT'S WHAT I THINK.

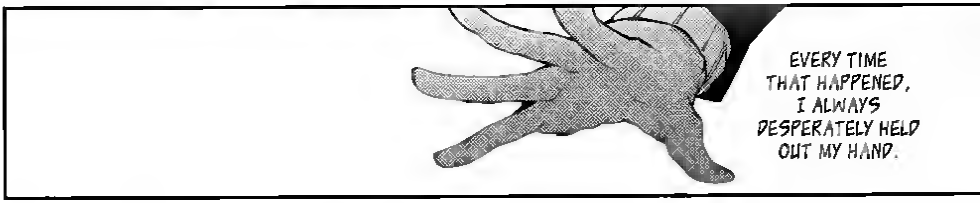
CHAPTER ? : SEISHUN* GO AROUND XXX


I DIDN'T REMEMBER MUCH OF THE FIRST LOOP BECAUSE I WAS DESPERATE.
SAVING KYOU-CHAN'S DEATH. THIS PHENOMENA CALLED LOOP. I WAS SO CONFUSED WITH ALL OF THEM,

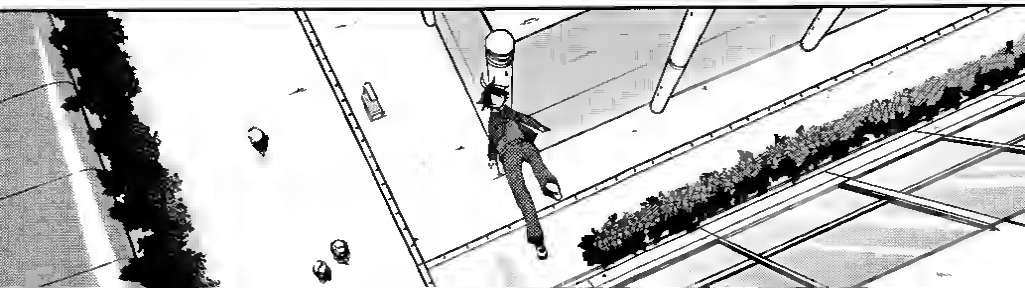

I REPEATED THE VERY DAY OVER AND OVER AGAIN,
TRYING TO SAVE HIS DEATH, BUT-

CONFUSION, PERPLEXITY. THERE WERE A LOT OF THINGS GOING ON.
I WAS GRASPING EVERY STRAW OUT THERE.
BUT I WANTED TO SAVE KYOU-CHAN NO MATTER WHAT.


I JUST CAN'T DO IT.
BY JUMPING HIMSELF.
KYOU-CHAN ALWAYS END UP DYING.
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I TRIED,

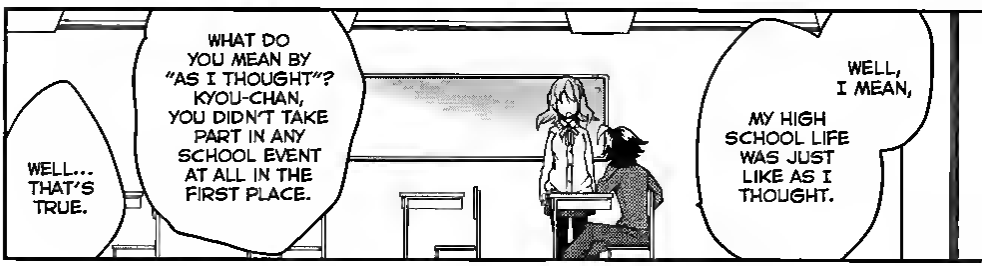

EVERY TIME
THAT HAPPENED,
I ALWAYS
DESPERATELY HELD
OUT MY HAND.

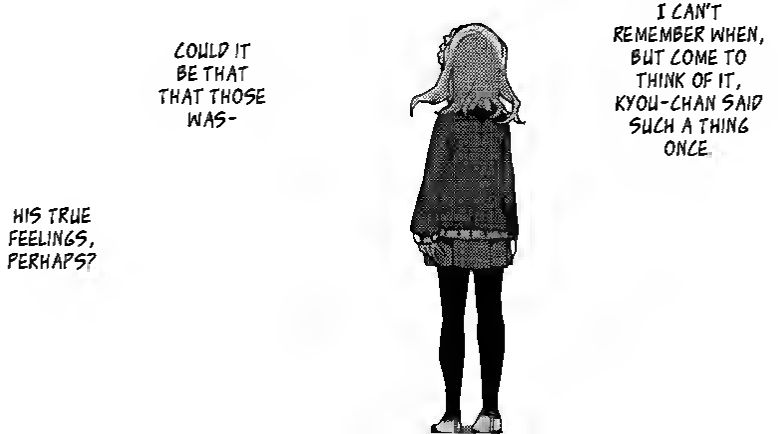
BUT HE
DIDN'T EVEN
BOTHER
GRASPING IT.

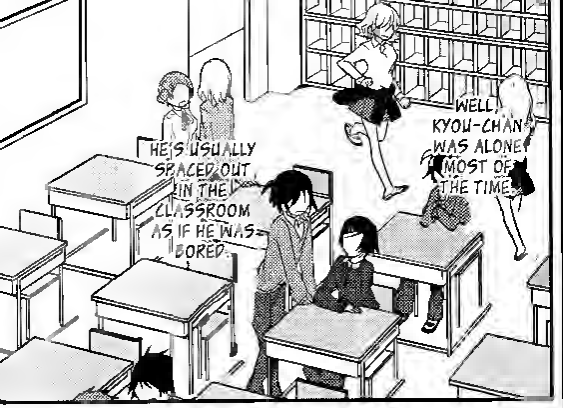


KYOU-CHAN, DID YOU THINK IT WAS OKAY FOR YOU TO DIE LIKE THAT?
I WAS THINKING WHY,
WHY WOULD HE MAKE SUCH A DECISION.
I ASKED HIM WHAT WAS WRONG.
I EVEN ASKED HIM TO TELL ME IF HE HAD ANY WORRIES.
BUT HE ALWAYS REPLIED "NOTHING MUCH" OR SOMETHING SIMILAR TO THAT.
IF HE WON'T TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED,
THEN HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW WHAT TO DO.
THERE'S ONE THING THAT BOTHERED ME.

...WHAT IS?
IT'S... A LITTLE FLAT.


WELL... THAT'S TRUE.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "AS I THOUGHT"? KYOU-CHAN, YOU DIDN'T TAKE PART IN ANY SCHOOL EVENT AT ALL IN THE FIRST PLACE.
WELL, I MEAN, MY HIGH SCHOOL LIFE WAS JUST LIKE AS I THOUGHT.


HIS TRUE FEELINGS, PERHAPS?
COULD IT BE THAT THAT THOSE WAS-
I CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN, BUT COME TO THINK OF IT, KYOU-CHAN SAID SUCH A THING ONCE.


HE'S USUALLY SPACED OUT IN THE CLASSROOM AS IF HE WAS BORED.
WELL, KYOU-CHAN WAS ALONE MOST OF THE TIME.

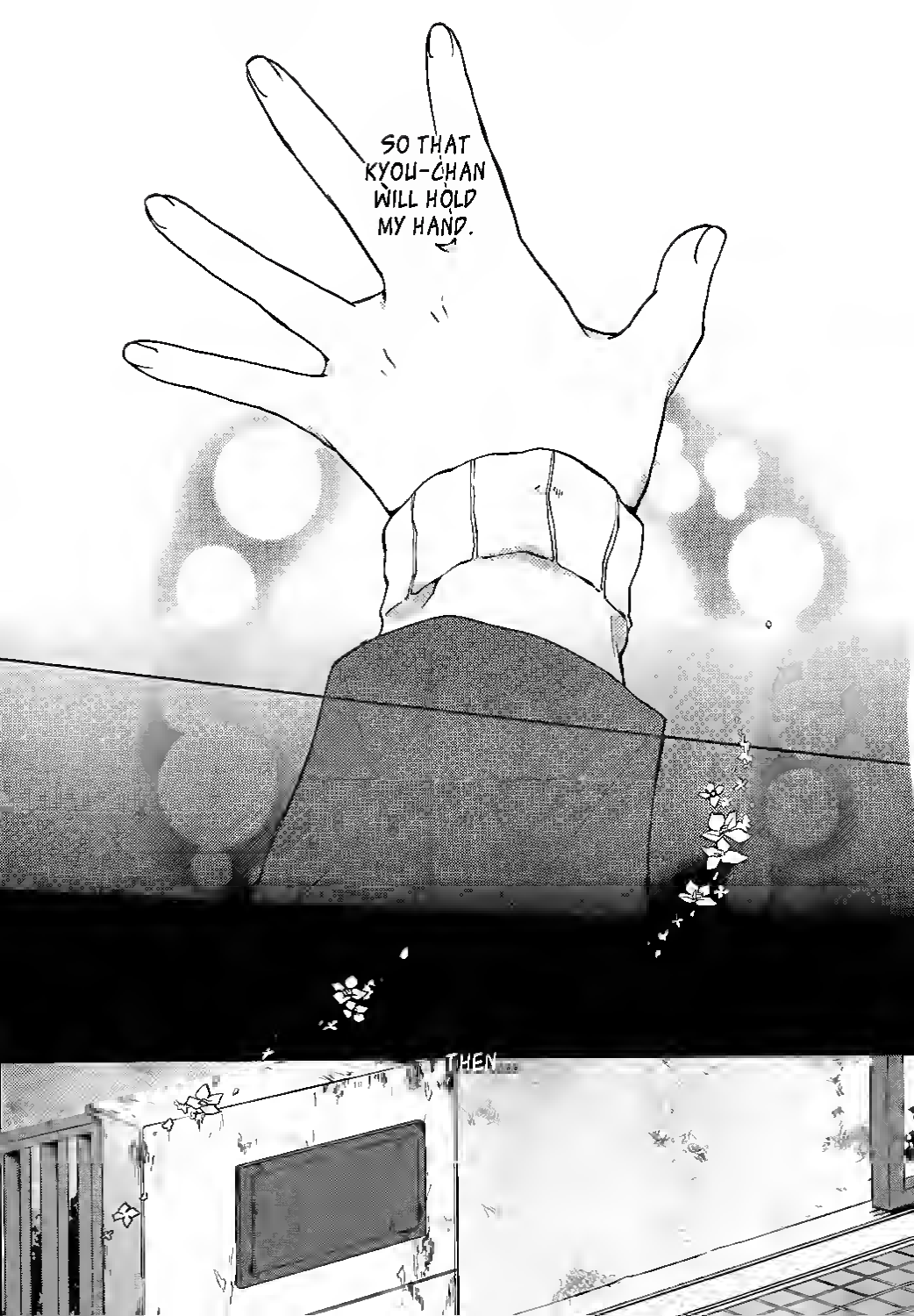
HE SKIPPED THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL. HE DIDN'T SHOW UP IN OUR SPORTS FESTIVAL OR CHOIR PRACTICE.
HE WENT ON THE SCHOOL TRIP WITH A LOOK SAYING IT'S A DUTY AFTER ALL.
... EVEN THOUGH HE MADE THOSE CHOICES.

HE ALWAYS REGRETED IT, IS WHAT I THINK.
BUT YOU CAN'T FIX IT NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU REGRET IT.
SO MAYBE HE GAVE UP?

THEN-

SO HE'S REGRETTING THOSE THREE YEARS?

LOOP ME
WHERE HE CAN
RE-LIVE THOSE
"REGRETFUL"
THREE YEARS,

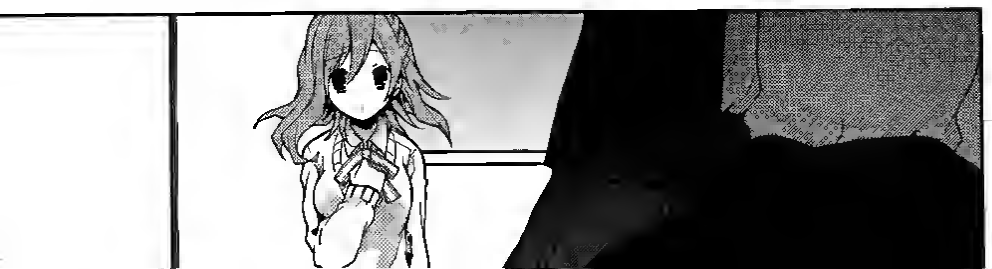

SO THAT KYOU-CHAN WILL HOLD MY HAND.
THEN

WHEN I GOT THERE, IT WAS APRIL THREE YEARS AGO.
THE WISH I MADE
ENGULFED OTHER STUDENTS' REGRET AS WELL, AND EXTENDED,
WHICH CHANGED NOT ONLY THE GIRLS,
BUT ALSO KYOU-CHAN'S FUTURE ALTOGETHER.

THOUGH HE DID SOLVE THEIR REGRETS,
BUT THAT WAS NOT ENOUGH.
HIS FUTURE STILL DIDN'T CHANGE.

Yeah yeah Chihiro-kun's awesome!
What
Why don't you be Miyabi-chan?
I'VE ALWAYS SUPPORTED HIM,
SO HE'LL GET INVOLVED IN VARIOUS SCHOOL EVENTS SUCH AS CLUB ACTIVITIES AND THE CULTURAL FESTIVALS...
Let's run together

IT'S KYOUKO-CHAN'S MIND THAT HAS TO CHANGE.
AND TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN, HANGING OUT WITH THOSE GIRLS MIGHT HELP HIM CHANGE.



AND IN THE END-
WELL, IT WASN'T SO BAD.

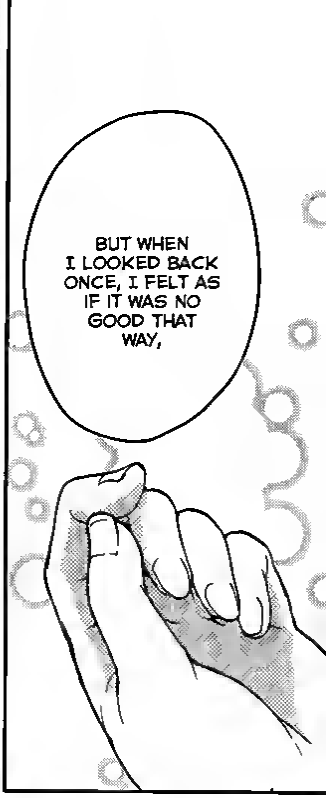
SO...
KYOU-CHAN HAS CHANGED
Just a bump!
What's with you all of a sudden...?
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT KYOU-CHAN DESCRIBED HIS HIGH SCHOOL LIFE THAT WAY.

WE CAN CHANGE THE OUTCOME.

THE 32ND GRADUATION CEREMONY
KYOU-CHAN!
WAH!
N-NOT REALLY...
OKAY THEN.
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, THIS IS THE MOMENT WHERE
CHIHIRO?
WHAT'S WRONG? DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
KYOU-CHAN, IT'S DANGEROUS OVER THERE.
DANGEROUS? TRUE, THE FENCE IS A LITTLE LOW, BUT...

DON'T YOU REMEMBER? DURING THAT TIME YOU SAID,
WHAT?
CHIHIRO, YOU'RE SUCH A WORRY-WART.
JUST LIKE IN OUR FIRST DAY IN THIS VERY PLACE.
"DON'T YOU THINK YOU'LL REGRET HIGH SCHOOL YEARS THAT WAY?"
!
I GUESS IT WAS ONE OF THE TRIGGERS.
I'D SPENT DAYS AND DAYS WITHOUT DOING ANY-THING.
I WASN'T REALLY UNCOMFORTABLE WITH IT,

FOR SHIINA AND THE OTHERS GIRLS, I TOOK CARE OF THEIR LI-
UH, I MEAN, I GOT TO START TALKING TO THEM.


BUT WHEN I LOOKED BACK ONCE, I FELT AS IF IT WAS NO GOOD THAT WAY,

EVEN THOUGH I SAID I DON'T REGRET IT,
I WONDERED IF I WAS LIVING A BORING LIFE "NOT WORTH REGRETTING."

REGRET MEANS YOU HAVE SOME UNSETTLED FEELINGS LEFT, RIGHT?
I DIDN'T EVEN HAVE... ANY OF THOSE FEELINGS.

I RAN AWAY BECAUSE I HATED REGRETTING,
BUT IF I REGRET BECAUSE OF IT, THAT'S WORSE THAN PUTTING A HORSE BEFORE THE CART.
YOU MADE ME REALIZE THAT, CHIHIRO.
KYOU-CHAN...

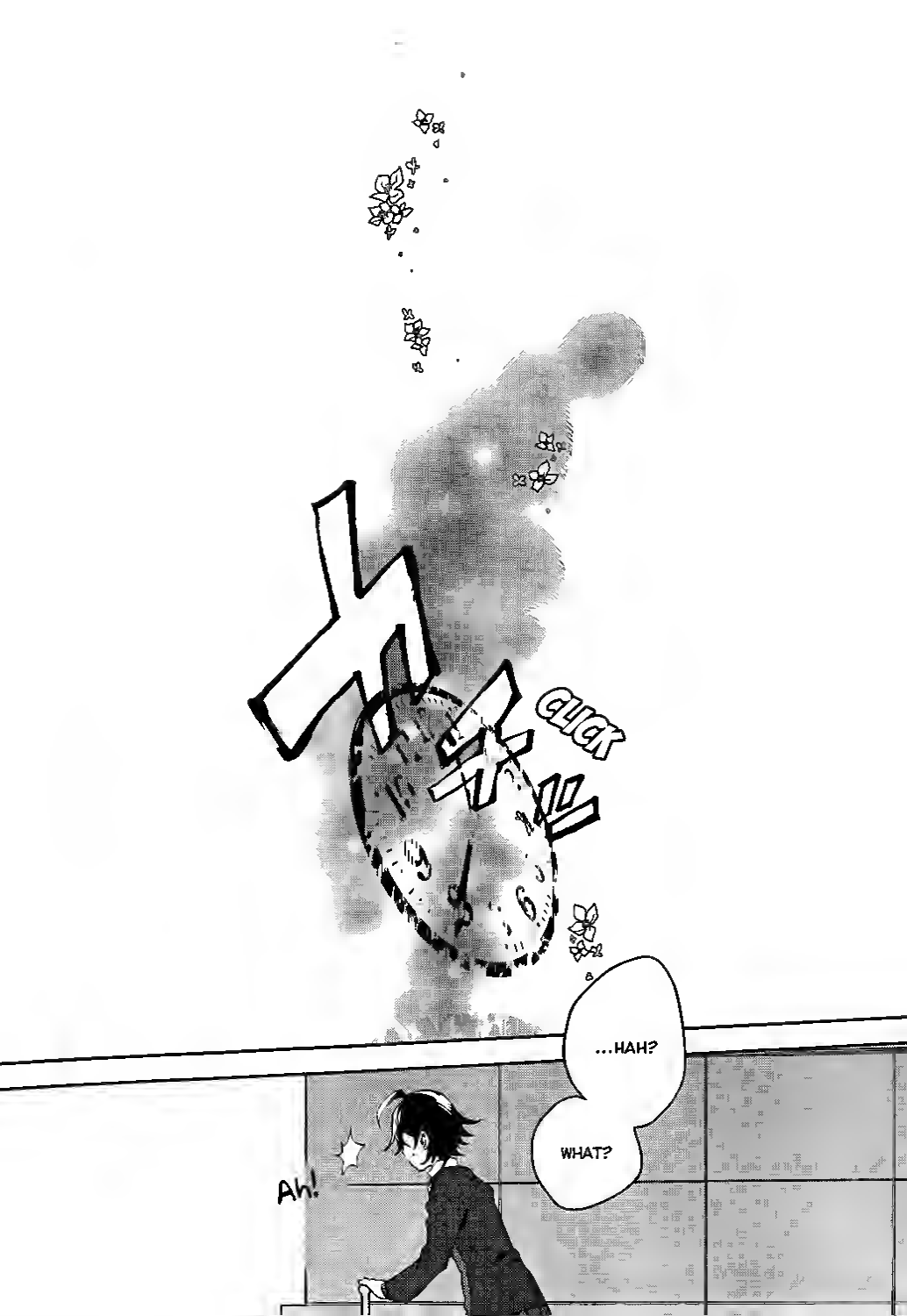
SO KYOU-CHAN, DO YOU THINK YOU ENJOYED THESE THREE YEARS?
...WELL, YOU CAN SAY THAT.
I'M SO GLAD...

Y-YEAH, SORRY.
WH-WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY SAY THAT?
HUH?
...KYOU-CHAN, YOU SEE...
I-I'VE A-ALWAYS BEEN WAITING FOR THIS DAY TO HAPPEN.
NOW, THIS MOMENT ARRIVES, I CAN FINALLY SAY IT TO YOU.
I REPEATED AND REPEATED IT
BECAUSE I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE WITH YOU.
KYOU-CHAN, I-
SFX: BREAK

WHAT?

WHY
AM I
FALL-
CHIHI-

AS OF 12.46, MARCH 5TH, 2016, YOKOZE CHIHIRO PASSED OUT.

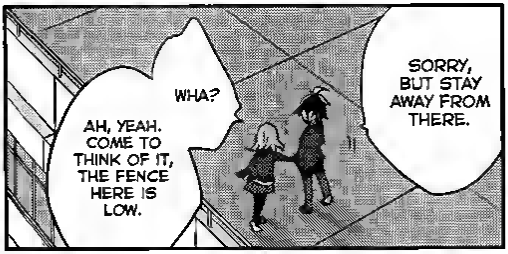

CLICK
...HAH?
WHAT?
Ah!

CH-
CHIHIRO?!
H-
HUH...?
SHE'S GONE...?
KYOU-CHAN!

AH,
TOMOKA-CHAN SAID YOU'RE HERE...
CHIHIRO?!
CHIHIRO JUST FELL FROM HER-
...DIDN'T-
KYOU-CHAN, IT'S... DANGEROUS OVER THERE.
AH IT'S THE SAME AS SHIINA AND OTHER GIRLS' CASE
DID I LOOP...?!

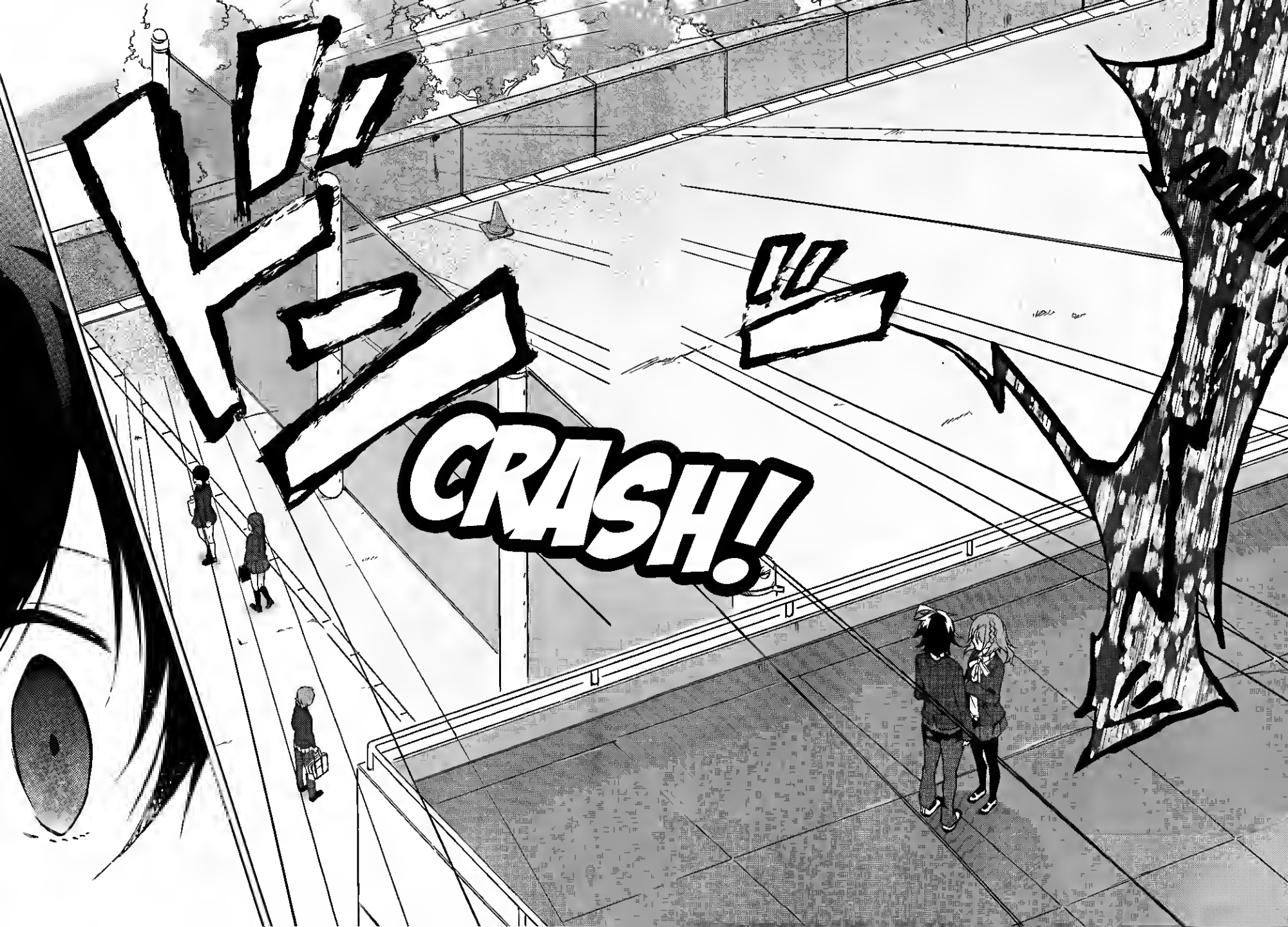
K-
KYOU-CHAN ...!
...!
Y-YEAH.
IF THIS IS A LOOP,
CHIHIRO SHOULDN'T BE NEAR HERE...

IT'S FINE NOW... I GUESS?


SORRY, BUT STAY AWAY FROM THERE.
WHA?
AH, YEAH. COME TO THINK OF IT, THE FENCE HERE IS LOW.

WHAT IS THIS?
SOMEHOW, I HAVE A BAD FEELING TO WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN NEXT.

AS IF THIS HAPPENED BEFORE.
SCREEECH


ヒュー
!!
CRASH!!

EEEP
!?!?
THE FUCK?!
SOME-BODY, CALL AN AMBU-LANCE!

SHIINA?

...WH-

WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING...?!
THEN IF I SAVE SHIINA, THE CLASS REP WILL -
WHEN I SAVED CHIHIRO, SHIINA DIED.
AFTER I SAVED IZUMI, OOTSUKA...
I SAVED THE CLASS REP, BUT IZUMI...

I LOOPED AND LOOPED OVER AND OVER AGAIN,
BUT
...WHY?

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING...!
NO MATTER HOW MANY- HOW MANY TIMES I REPEAT,
SOMEONE ALWAYS DIE.

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?!
KYOU-CHAN?

I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW MANY TIMES I'VE HAD TO LOOP TODAY.
YOU LOOK PALE... ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
EVEN IF I SAVE HER, SOMEONE ELSE WILL DIE.
IF YOU'RE FEELING BAD, LET'S GO TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE.
IF I LEAVE CHIHIRO ALONE, SHE'LL DIE.
A-AH...
KYOU-CHAN?
DON'T TELL ME LOOP WILL GO ON FOREVER
AND EVER?
SHOULD I ABANDON ONE OF THEM?
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT'S REGRETTABLE.
DON'T TELL ME THE REASON WHY THIS LOOP KEEPS ON REPEATING IS BECAUSE I COULDN'T DECIDE WHAT TO DO..
IN THAT CASE,
THEN, I RATHER,

KYOU-
CHAN!!!
KILL
MYSELF

I'M OKAY WITH THIS.
IF THIS IS THE RIGHT CHOICE AND EVERYTHING ENDS WITH IT.
THEN,
THIS CHOICE...
THE DECISION WHERE I HAVE TO DIE,
...WHAT.

KYOU-CHAN!
I HAVE NO REGRET.

ガラ
ガラ
ガラ
SAYAMA KUN!

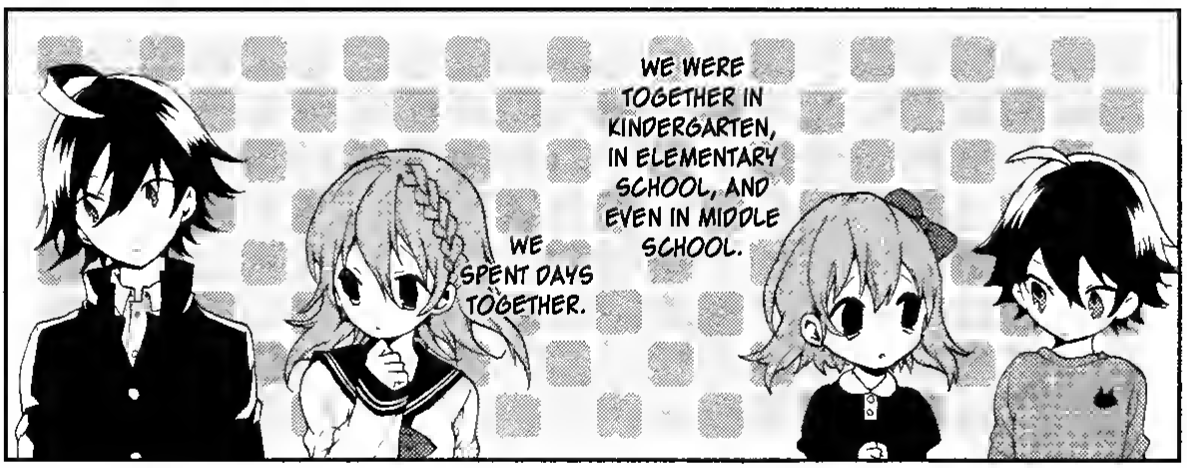
WHY...?
NOT AGAIN.

SFX: CLICK

WHAT'S WRONG, KYOU-CHAN?
N-NOTHING...
IT'S JUST THAT,

I'M HAVING A VERY BAD FEELING FOR SOME REASON...
WELL, I MUST BE IMAGINING THINGS.
SORRY FOR SAYING SOMETHING STRANGE. FORGET WHAT I SAID.
...IT'S OKAY.

BECAUSE I WILL NOT GIVE UP...
NOW, LET'S START YOUTH ALL OVER AGAIN...



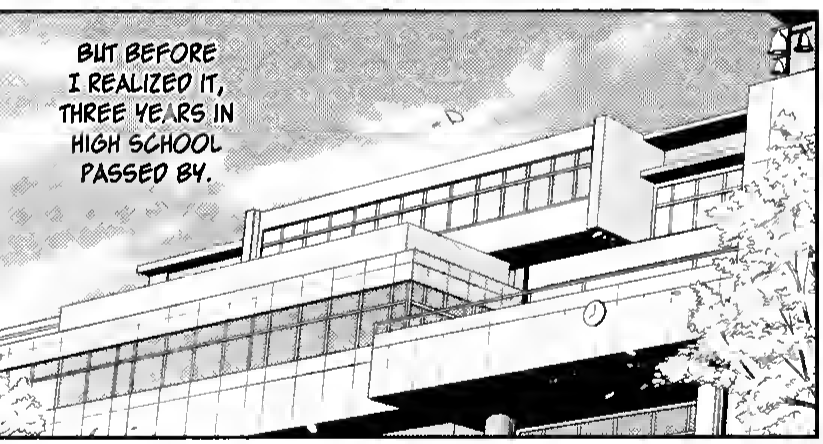
SO I ALWAYS WANT TO BE WITH HIM,

I WISHED.

I REMEMBER I LOVED HIM ALL THE TIME;

I WONDERED WHAT LOOK HE WOULD MAKE IF I TOLD HIM I'D ALWAYS LOVED HIM.

ACTUALLY, I WAS THINKING ABOUT ASKING HIM OUT
ON THE GRADUATION DAY OF MIDDLE SCHOOL.
H-hey.
?
Ah, um.. I mean, it's nothing really.
BUT I GOT TOO SCARED OF AN IDEA THAT I COULD BE REJECTED.


BUT BEFORE I REALIZED IT, THREE YEARS IN HIGH SCHOOL PASSED BY.

I WAS GOING TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL WITH HIM ANYWAY, SO I POSTPONED IT BECAUSE IT DIDN'T HAVE TO BE NOW.

WE WERE GOING TO DIFFERENT UNIVERSITIES,
SO I KNEW, TODAY IS THE LAST CHANCE.

BUT
SUCH A FUTURE DID NOT COME.
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIME I REPEATED THE LOOP,
I WAS NEVER, NEVER ABLE TO SAVE TO YOU.
I HAVE SOMETHING TO ASK YOU
WHEN WE BOTH PASS THAT DAY,
SO

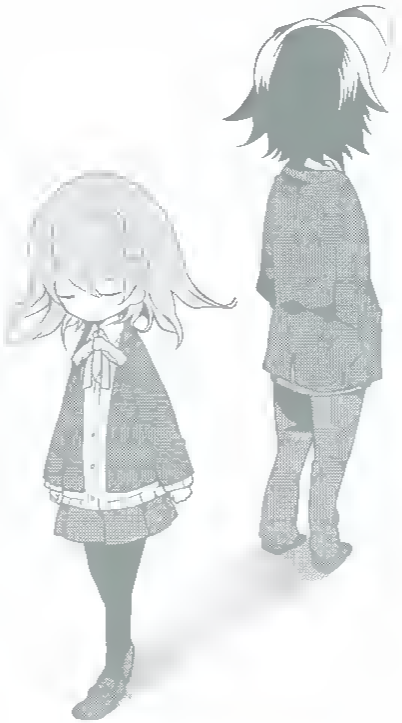
GIRLS GO AROUND END

ガールズ・ゴー・アラウンド
拝受読有難う御座いました!!

千田衛人.

Thanks

担当様　マコトさん　まこさん　アズマさん
榊原さん　リんとさん　友人、家族の皆様。



SQUARE ENIX